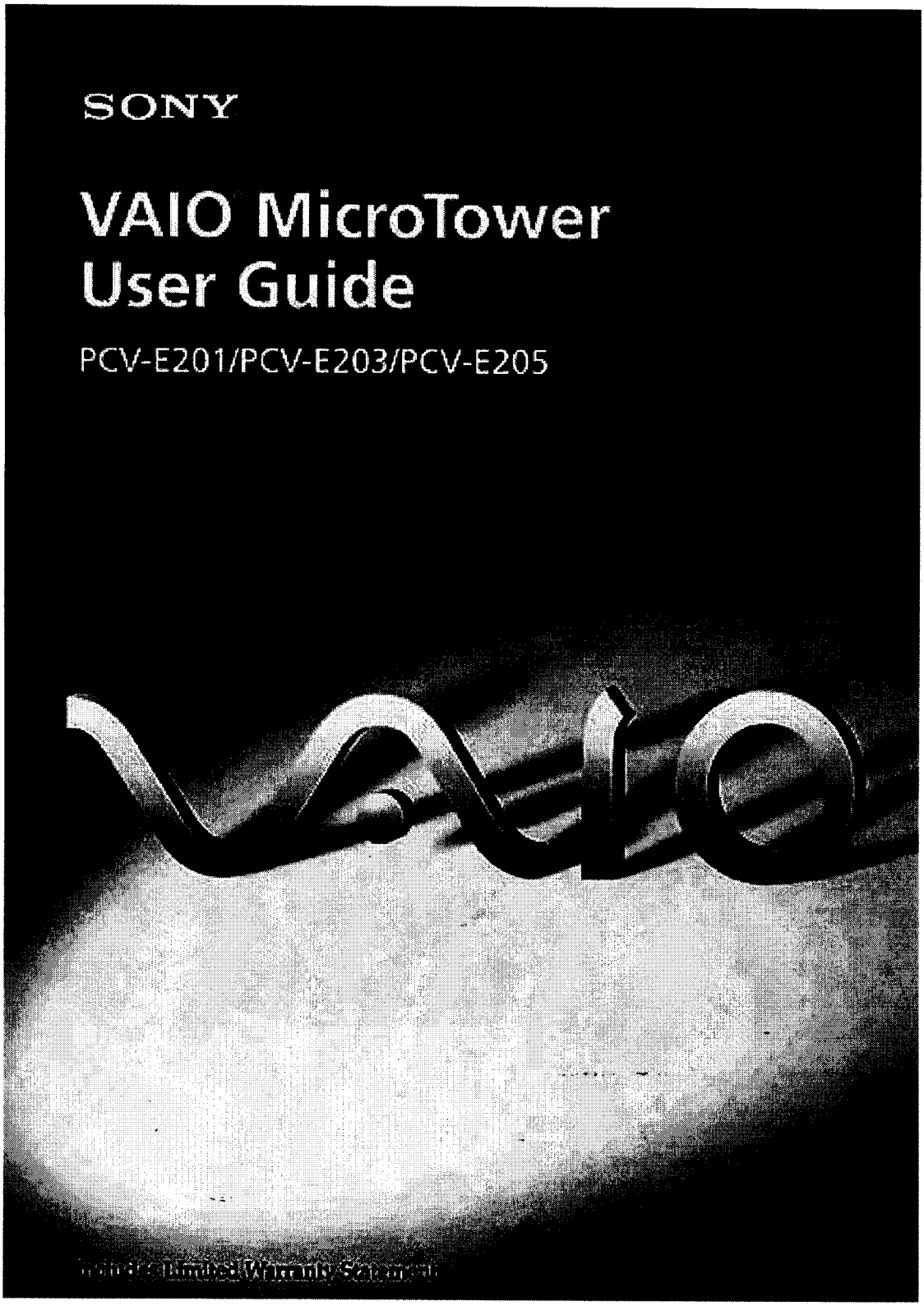
SONY

VAIO MicroTower User Guide

PCV-E201/PCV-E203/PCV-E205



Notice to Users

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Safety Information

Owner's Record

The model number and serial number are located on the back of your Sony computer. Record the model and serial numbers in the space provided here. Refer to the model and serial number when you call your Sony Service Center.

Model Number:_____

Serial Number:_____

WARNING

- To prevent fire or shock hazard, do not expose your Sony computer to rain or moisture.
- Never install modem or telephone wiring during a lightning storm.
- Never install telephone jacks in wet locations unless the jack is specifically designed for wet locations
- Never touch uninsulated telephone wire or terminals unless the telephone line has been disconnected at the network interface.
- Use caution when installing or modifying telephone lines.
- Avoid using the modem during an electrical storm.
- Do not use the modem or a telephone to report a gas leak in the vicinity of the leak.

The use of optical instruments with this product will increase eye hazard.

Regulatory Information

Declaration of Conformity

Trade Name: SONY
Model No.: PCV-E201, PCV-E203, PCV-E205
Responsible Party:
Sony Electronics Inc.
Address:
1 Sony Drive
Park Ridge, NJ 07656
Telephone No: 201-930-6970

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the two following conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- ❑ Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- ❑ Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- ❑ Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- ❑ Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

You are cautioned that any changes or modifications not expressly approved in this manual could void your authority to operate this equipment.

Only peripherals (computer input/output devices, terminals, printers, etc.) that comply with FCC Class B limits may be attached to this computer product. Operation with non-compliant peripherals is likely to result in interference to radio and television reception.

All cables used to connect peripherals must be shielded and grounded. Operation with cables, connected to peripherals, that are not shielded and grounded, may result in interference to radio and television reception.

FCC Part 68

This equipment complies with Part 68 of the FCC rules. The ringer equivalence number (REN) and the FCC registration number are printed on the modem board. If requested, this information must be supplied to the telephone company.

The REN is used to determine the quantity of devices which may be connected to the phone line. Excessive REN's on the telephone line may result in the devices not ringing in response to an incoming call. In most, but not all areas, the sum of the REN's should not exceed five (5.0). To be certain of the number of devices that may be connected to the line, as determined by the total REN's, contact the telephone company to determine the maximum REN for the calling area.

This modem uses the USOC RJ-11 telephone jack.

If this equipment causes harm to the telephone network, the telephone company will, when practical, notify you in advance that temporary discontinuance of service may be required. If advance notice isn't practical, the telephone company will notify you as soon as possible. Also, you will be advised of your right to file a complaint with the FCC if you believe it is necessary.

The telephone company may make changes in its facilities, equipment, operations or procedures that could affect the operations of the equipment. If this happens, the telephone company will notify you in advance, in order for you to make the necessary modifications in order to maintain uninterrupted service.

If trouble is experienced with this modem, for repair or warranty information, please contact 1-888-4SONY-PC, or write to the Sony Customer Information Center, One Sony Drive, Park Ridge, NJ 07656.

This equipment cannot be used on telephone-company-provided coin service. Connection to Party Line Service is subject to state tariffs.

Repair of the modem should be made only by a Sony Service Center or Sony authorized agent. For the Sony Service Center nearest you, call 1-888-4SONY-PC (1-888-476-6972).

Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991

The Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 makes it unlawful for any person to use a computer or other electronic device to send any message via a telephone facsimile machine unless such message clearly contains, in a margin at the top or bottom of each transmitted page or on the first page of the transmission, the date and time it is sent and an identification of the business, other entity, or individual sending the message, and the telephone number of the sending machine or such business, other entity, or individual.

In order to program this information into your facsimile, see your fax software documentation.

You are cautioned that any changes or modifications not expressly approved in this manual could void your authority to operate this equipment.

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Welcome

Congratulations on your purchase of the Sony VAIO® MicroTower Computer. Sony has combined leading-edge technology in audio, video, computing, and communications to provide you with state-of-the-art personal computing.

Features

Check the following table to determine the features of your specific VAIO MicroTower model.

Model	*PCV-E201*	*PCV-E203*	*PCV-E205*
Processor	266 MHz	300 MHz	333 MHz
Standard SDRAM	32 MB	48 MB	64 MB
Video RAM	2 MB	4 MB	4 MB
MPEG	"Sony Tuned" MPEG Digital Video		
Graphics Accelerator	ATi 3D Rage Pro Turbo AGP		
Sound	PCI 3D Stereo Sound		
DVD-ROM Drive	--	5X*	5X*
CD-ROM Drive	24X*	--	--
Modem	K56flex™ Technology		
Hard Disk Capacity	4.3 GB	6.4 GB	8.4 GB
Other	--	Video Out	Video Out

** Maximum performance. DVD-ROM drive also plays CD-ROM discs. See "Specifications" on page 101 for details and a complete description of your computer's specifications.*

- ❑ Digital Versatile Disc (DVD) (models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only): This new optical storage technology provides increased storage capacity and a rich multimedia computing experience. Your DVD-ROM drive plays both DVD-ROM and CD-ROM discs.

- **Sony audio and video quality**: Dynamic high-fidelity audio sound system, high-powered 3D graphics (AGP) and "Sony-Tuned" MPEG digital video playback enable you to take advantage of today's advanced multimedia applications, games, and entertainment software.
- **50 free hours of Internet access:** Use the Internet for up to 50 free hours when you sign up with GTE (no credit card required). Limit of two hours per day. Free access expires after 50 hours or 90 days after signing up—whichever occurs first.
- **Preinstalled software titles**: All the software on your computer is preinstalled, configured, and ready for you to use right out of the box.
- **Microsoft® Windows®**: Your system includes the latest operating system from Microsoft.
- **VAIO Space**: Sony's original navigation utility, which helps you use the applications on your computer more efficiently.
- **Sony Audio-Video Center**: Enjoy all of your computer's audio and visual capabilities with component-like applications that allow you to mix your own sounds and play audio CDs and audio files (MIDI and WAV).
- **Communications:** Access popular online services, browse the Internet, send faxes, and more.

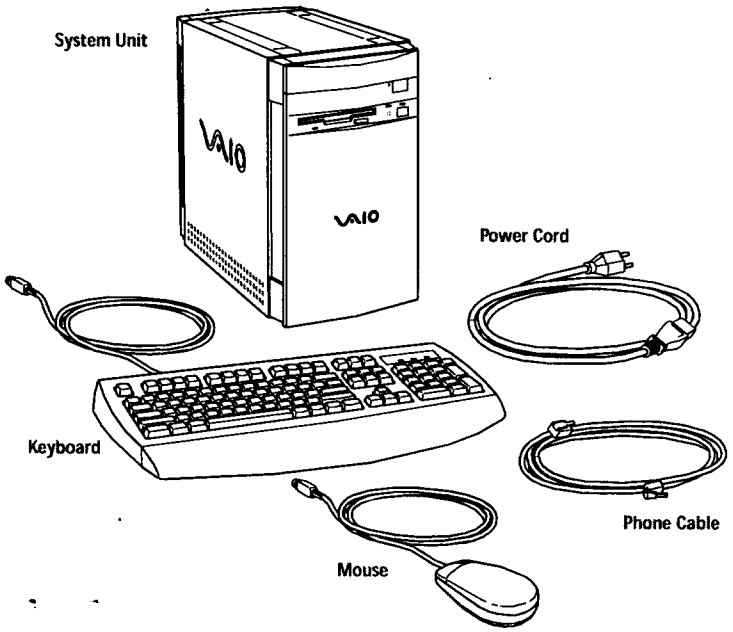
About This User Guide

This manual offers a quick introduction and reference to your Sony computer.

- **Setting Up Your VAIO MicroTower** shows you how to connect the standard components of your system—generally in under 15 minutes. This section also explains how to connect additional components, such as a printer, MIDI instrument, joystick, digital camera, and more.
- **Getting Started With VAIO Space** describes how to use VAIO Space and the audio and video applications on your VAIO MicroTower.
- **Getting Help** explains the support options available to you, shows you how to use the Sony Online Support service, and offers basic troubleshooting tips.
- **Upgrading and Maintaining Your VAIO MicroTower** illustrates how to install an add-in card, add memory, and replace the lithium battery.
- **Computer Basics** shows new computer users how to use a mouse, keyboard, DVD/CD-ROM, and diskette drive.
- **Other Information** provides facts and advice about using your computer.
- **Limited Warranty Statement** provides your product warranty statement and explains how to extend your warranty for an additional nine months.
- **Specifications** includes all the hardware specifications for your computer.

Unpacking Your Computer

Computer and Supplied Accessories



Manuals

- **VAIO MicroTower Getting Started** describes how to set up your computer, find help, upgrade your computer, and accomplish basic computer tasks.
- The Microsoft Windows manual explains how to use the basic features of the Windows operating system.

Recovery CDs

- System Recovery CD
- Application Recovery CD

Other

- Setting up your VAIO MicroTower (poster)
- Packet containing special product offers

Software Library

The Software Library contains the Microsoft software license agreement, Sony end-user license agreement, and the following CDs:

- Activision HeavyGear®
- Adobe PhotoDeluxe®
- Microsoft® Encarta® 98 Encyclopedia
- Microsoft® Money/Microsoft® Works

DVD Discs

Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 include the following DVD title:

- SHORT cinema journal

Software Information

Adobe® Acrobat® Reader

Adobe Systems Incorporated

Acrobat Reader software allows you to view, navigate, and print electronic documents in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF), an open file format that is intended to preserve the fidelity of documents created on all major computer platforms.

website	http://www.adobe.com/
phone	206-628-2746 (fee-based support)
fax	206-628-5737
e-mail	techdocs@adobe.com
hours	M-F, 6 AM-5 PM PT

Adobe PhotoDeluxe®

Adobe Systems Incorporated

Create amazing photo effects with Adobe PhotoDeluxe. Without learning complex software, you can enhance, restore, and be creative with your photos. Includes built-in guided activities, stock photos, clip art and templates to assist you.

website	http://www.adobe.com/
phone	206-628-2746 (fee-based support)
fax	206-628-5737
e-mail	techdocs@adobe.com
hours	M-F, 6 AM-5 PM PT

America Online®

America Online

America Online is the world's most popular Internet online service. Stay in touch with family and friends with Easy-to-Use E-mail, manage your personal finances, get the latest news and sports scores, and chat with thousands of others who share your interests.

website	http://www.aol.com/
phone	800-827-3338
hours	7 days a week, 6 AM - 2 PM ET

CompuServe® Interactive

CompuServe Interactive, Inc.

CompuServe is the most comprehensive source of organized business and educational information online today. CompuServe allows you to access the vastness of the Internet, without wasting time wading through it. Maximize your time online with CompuServe.

website	http://www.compuserve.com/
phone	800-848-8990
hours	M-F, 8 AM - 1 PM ET, S-S 10 AM - 10 PM ET

Dr. Solomon's Anti-Virus

Dr. Solomon's Software Inc.

Dr. Solomon's Anti-Virus provides the most comprehensive defense against the spread of viruses, including macro viruses. It can scan inside compressed files and automatically protects your system against viruses sent via e-mail or Internet download.

website	http://www.drsolomon.com/
phone	888-377-6566
e-mail	support@us.drsolomon.com
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

Easy Internet Access

Encompass, Inc.

Easy Internet Access provides an intuitive interface to do almost everything on the Internet: browsing, e-mail, navigating to the best sites on the web, and interacting with multimedia content. Includes 50 free hours of Internet access from GTE Internetworking.

website	http://www.encmpss.com/index.htm
phone	800-927-3000
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

First Aid® 98

CyberMedia, Inc.

First Aid helps to intercept crashes, fixes startup problems for Sony pre-installed applications, uses a knowledge base to find and fix additional problems, and automatically backs up your computer's critical configuration files.

website	http://www.cybermedia.com/
phone	310-581-4710
hours	M-F, 7:30 AM - 5 PM PT

Heavy Gear

Activision, Inc.

Combine sophisticated role-playing with exciting war games in this state-of-the-art 3D combat robot simulation.

website	http://www.activision.com/
phone	310-255-2050
e-mail	support@activision.com
hours	M-F, 9 AM - 5 PM PT

Microsoft® Encarta® 98 Encyclopedia

Microsoft Corporation

Encarta Encyclopedia combines current, comprehensive content with up-to-date multimedia technology, providing users with unique, engaging learning experiences. With the 1998 edition, Encarta provides a wealth of information resources and unique interactive features.

website	http://www.microsoft.com/support/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Microsoft® Internet Explorer 4.0

Microsoft Corporation

Internet Explorer 4.0 delivers the Web the way you want it. It's safe, easy to use, and you can personalize how you access the Web. Outlook™ Express and other tools in IE 4.0 also help you have a great experience when you're on the Web.

website	http://www.microsoft.com/support/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Microsoft® Money 98

Microsoft Corporation

Microsoft Money 98 is personal finance software that lets you perform your financial tasks—everything from paying bills to planning for the future—in a smarter, faster way. With Money's online services, you can pay bills and bank from the comfort of home.

website	http://www.microsoft.com/support/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Microsoft® Outlook™ 98

Microsoft Corporation

Outlook 98 is Microsoft's premier messaging and collaboration client. It combines the leading support for Internet standards-based messaging systems with integrated calendar, contact and task-management features.

website	http://www.microsoft.com/support/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Microsoft® Works

Microsoft Corporation

Works 4.5 provides users with the right set of core tools that allows them to write letters and reports, track family and friends with the address book, manage home finances and create a home inventory.

website	http://www.microsoft.com/support/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Netscape Communicator® Personal Edition

Netscape Communications Corporation

Netscape Communicator is the all-in-one Internet tool that makes it easy to browse the web, send Internet e-mail, chat, read newsgroups, and compose great web documents. Netscape Communicator is the most widely used World Wide Web browser in the world.

website	http://www.netscape.com/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Oil Change™ (Sony SOS Edition)

CyberMedia, Inc.

Oil Change software is a useful companion to Sony Online Support (SOS). Using the Internet, it provides the latest device drivers, software fixes, and updates provided by Sony for the software titles included with your Sony computer.

website	http://www.cybermedia.com/
phone	888-4SONY-PC (888-476-6972)*
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

* Support from 1-888-4SONYPC is free of charge for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Quicken® Basic 98
Intuit Inc.
Quicken is the fastest, easiest way to organize your finances. Quicken works just like your checkbook, so it's easy to learn and use. Quicken manages all of your finances—bank accounts, credit cards, investments, loans. You can even pay your bills online.

website	http://www.intuit.com/support/
phone	900-555-4688
hours	7 days a week, 24 hours a day

SHORT cinema journal (models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only)
2014 Corporation
SHORT cinema journal is a DVD magazine of award-winning films that celebrates the art of short cinema: narratives, fiction, experimental, documentary, criticism, monologues, interviews and editorials. Each issue contains nearly two hours of films and animations.

website	http://www.dvdmags.com/
phone	310-821-9843
fax	310-821-7846
e-mail	my2cents@dvdmags.com
hours	M-F, 9 AM - 5 PM PT

Setting Up Your VAIO MicroTower

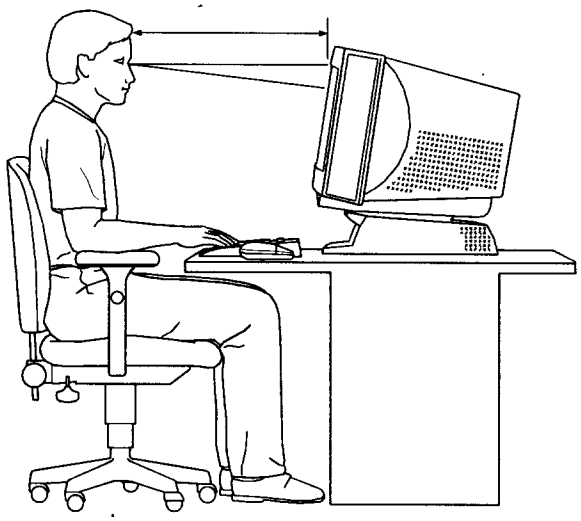
Your VAIO MicroTower comes with the software titles preinstalled on your hard disk drive. Just follow these simple steps to connect the cables and turn on the computer, and your VAIO MicroTower is ready to use.

Choosing a Location for Your Computer

Before you get started, find the best location for your new computer. Here are some things to consider when planning your workspace:

- **Stable work surface**—Use a stable work surface large enough to support the computer, the display, and other equipment.
- **Ventilation**—Leave at least eight inches of space on the left and back sides of your computer to enable proper ventilation.
- **Placement of the keyboard, mouse, and other input devices**—Place your keyboard, mouse, and other input devices so that your arms and hands are in a relaxed, comfortable position. The keyboard should be directly in front of you. Adjust the level of the keyboard so that your lower arms are parallel to the floor. Keep your wrists in a relaxed position when you're using the keyboard—not angled up or down. Use the palmrest only briefly, for resting. While typing, never use the palmrest or rest your hands on the table. Position the mouse at the same level as the keyboard. Hold the mouse with a relaxed hand, and use your whole arm to move it. Take breaks during sessions with your computer. Excessive use of the mouse or a joystick may strain muscles or tendons.

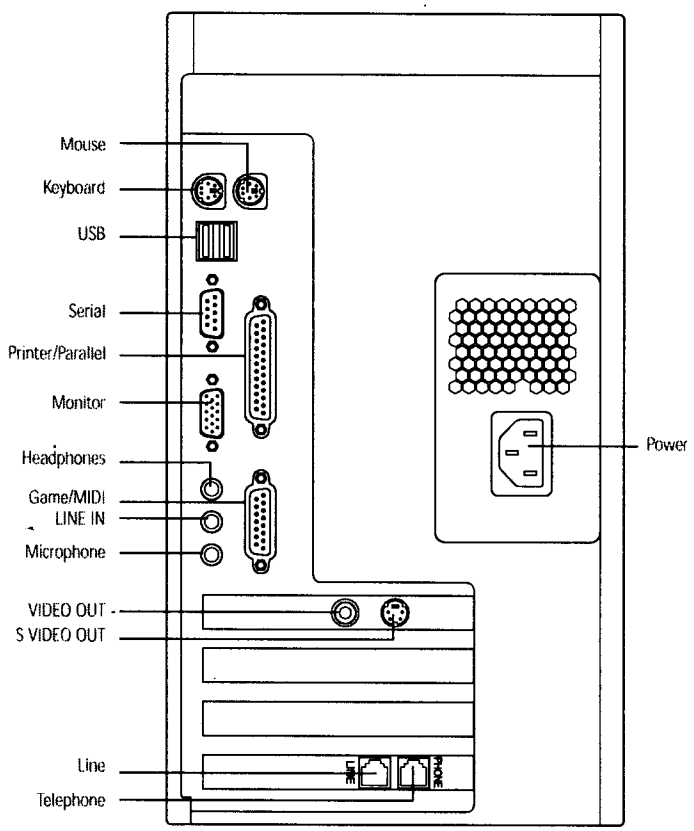
- **Furniture and posture**—Sit in a chair with good back support and armrests. Adjust the level of the chair so your feet are flat on the floor. A footrest may make you more comfortable. Sit in a relaxed, upright posture—avoid slouching forward or leaning far backward.



- **Viewing angle of the display**—Position the display 18 to 26 inches directly in front of you, with the top of the screen at or a little below eye level. Use the display's tilting feature to find the best position. You can reduce eye strain and muscle fatigue by placing the display in the proper position.
- **Lighting**—Choose a location where windows and lights do not create glare and reflection on the display. Use indirect lighting to avoid bright spots on the display. You can also purchase accessories for your display that help reduce glare. Proper lighting adds to your comfort and work effectiveness.

Back Panel Overview

The back panel of your computer contains the connectors where you plug in supplied and optional accessories. The icons on the back panel serve as a map to help you locate the connectors on your computer.



Model PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 shown. PCV-E201 does not include VIDEO OUT or S VIDEO OUT jacks.

Connecting the Sony Multimedia Computer Display

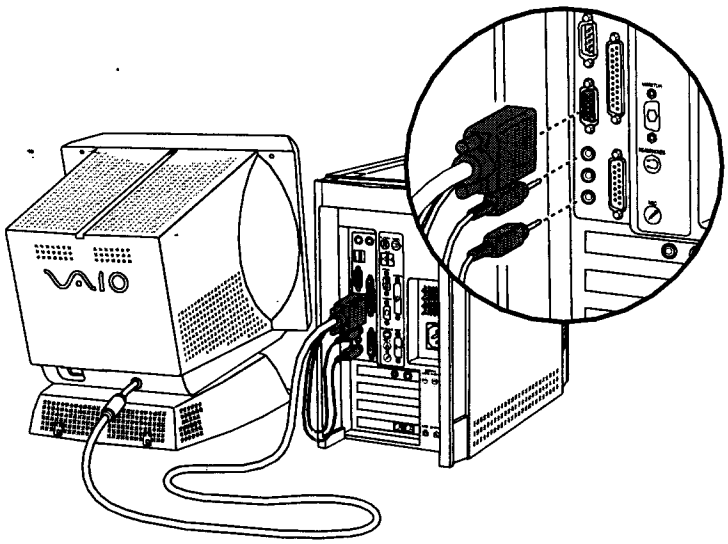
The Sony Multimedia Computer Display (sold separately) is an integrated audio/video unit with built-in speakers and a microphone. Follow these steps to connect it to your computer.

Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 Only: If you're connecting the computer to a TV or other video component, see "Connecting a Television (Audio/Video Out)" on page 23.

1 Use the blue symbol to locate the **MONITOR** (display) connector. Plug the blue display cable into this connector, and then tighten the two screws to secure the cable.

2 Use the green symbol to locate the **HEADPHONES** connector. Plug the green speaker cable into this connector.

3 Use the red symbol to locate the **MIC** (microphone) connector. Plug the red microphone cable into this connector.



See the manual that came with your Sony Multimedia Computer Display for more information on setting up and using the display.

Connecting a Display, Speakers, and a Microphone

If you did not purchase the Sony Multimedia Computer Display, you need speakers and a microphone to use the computer's audio features.

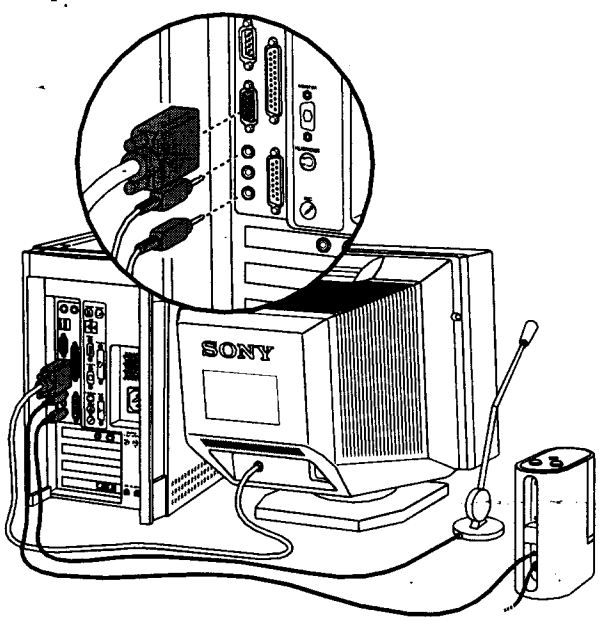
✍ Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 Only: If you're connecting the computer to a TV or other video component, see "Connecting a Television (Audio/Video Out)" on page 23.

✍ Make sure your speakers are designed for computer use. See the manuals that came with your display, speakers, and microphone for more information on setting them up and using them.

1 Use the blue ▢ symbol to locate the **MONITOR** (display) connector. Plug the display cable into this connector, and then tighten the two screws to secure the cable.

2 Use the green ∩ symbol to locate the **HEADPHONES** connector. Plug the speaker cable into this connector.

3 Use the red 🎤 to locate the **MIC** (microphone) connector. Plug the microphone cable into this connector.



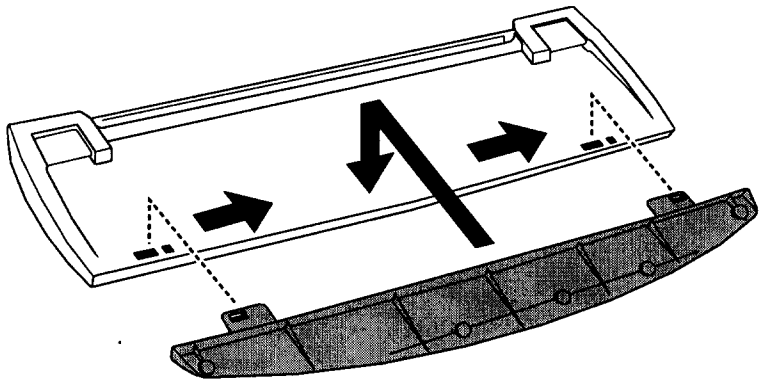
Connecting the Optional Palmrest

Your computer is equipped with an optional palmrest that you can attach to your keyboard. Follow these steps to connect the palmrest.

1 Place the keyboard and palmrest upside down on a flat surface.

2 Insert the latching posts on the palmrest into the openings on the keyboard.

3 Move the palmrest to the right until you feel it snap into place.



Do not keep your wrists on the palmrest while typing; use the palmrest briefly only when resting.

To remove the palmrest

1 Turn the keyboard and palmrest upside down.

2 Push down on the palmrest, and then move it to the left.

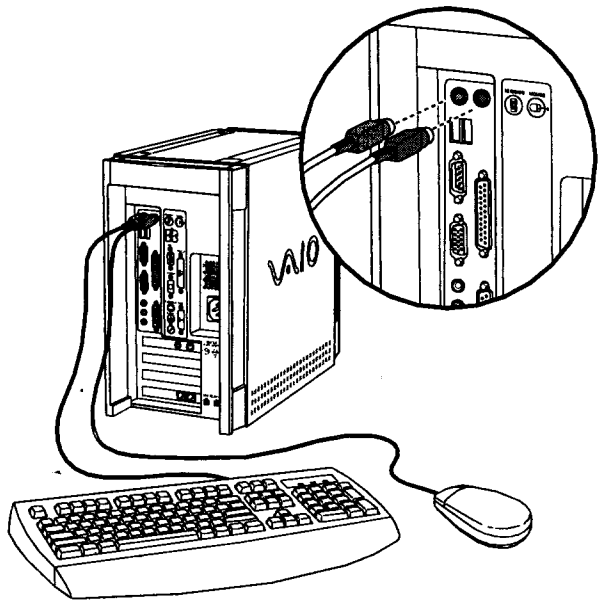
3 Lift the palmrest away from the keyboard.

Connecting the Keyboard and Mouse

Follow these steps to connect the keyboard and mouse.

1 Use the purple ⌨ symbol to locate the **KEYBOARD** connector. Plug the purple keyboard cable into this connector.

2 Use the blue-green ⊂⊃ symbol to locate the **MOUSE** connector and insert the blue-green mouse cable into this connector.



✍ See "Computer Basics" on page 85 for more information on setting up and using the keyboard and mouse.

Connecting the Phone Line and Phone

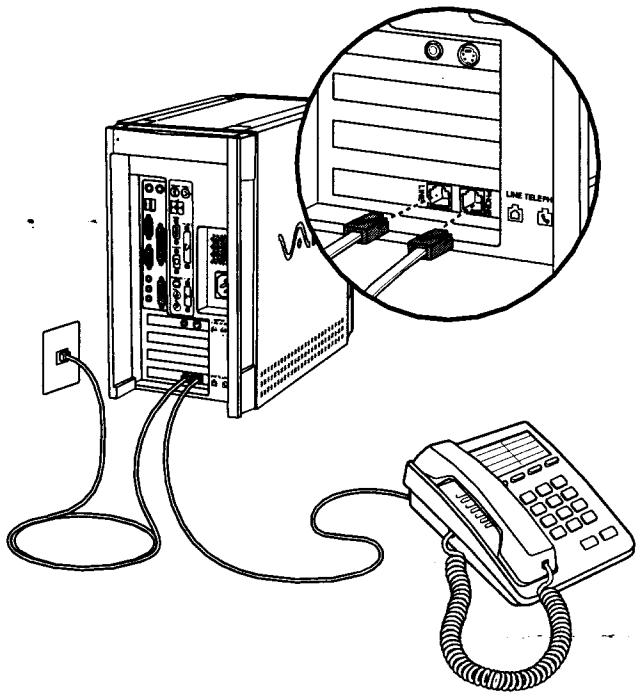
You need to connect the phone line and phone to take advantage of online services, the Internet, and Sony Online Support (SOS).

✍ In order to register your Sony VAIO MicroTower, register your software online, and use Sony Online Support, you must connect your computer to a phone line. Also, you must register your computer to receive the extended warranty.

There are two phone jacks on the back panel. Follow these steps to connect your phone line and phone.

1 Unplug your phone from the wall jack and plug it into the **TELEPHONE** jack on the computer.

2 Plug one end of the phone cable that came with your system into the **LINE** jack and the other end into the wall jack.



✍ Your computer does not work with party lines, cannot be connected to a coin-operated telephone, and may not work with multiple phone lines or a private branch exchange (PBX).

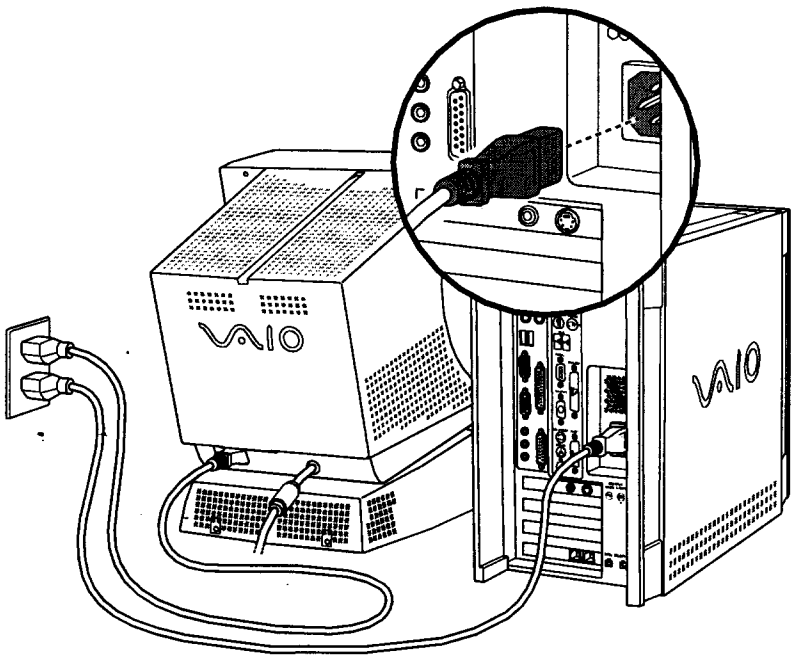
Connecting the Power Cords

Follow these steps to connect the power cords.

1 Plug the power cord into the connector on the computer.

2 If necessary, plug the display power cord into the display.

3 Plug both the display and power cords into a grounded AC wall outlet, power strip, or Uninterruptible Power Supply.



Connecting Peripherals

You can add functionality to your computer by connecting any of the following peripherals.

Connecting	*Enables You To*	*For Details*
Television*	Send audio and video from the computer to the TV. Allows you to play games and watch movies on a large screen. Also useful for business presentations.	See page 23
Printer	Print documents from the computer.	See page 26
Joystick	Connect a joystick, which enhances game playing.	See page 27
MIDI device	Connect MIDI instruments.	See page 27
Universal Serial Bus (USB) device	Connect USB devices.	See page 28
Serial device	Connect serial devices, such as a digital camera.	See page 29

* *Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only*

Turn off the computer before connecting peripherals. In normal use, you should turn on the peripherals before turning on the computer.

Connecting a Television (Audio/Video Out) *

Connecting a television to your computer enables you to send audio and video from the computer to the television. (You will be able to watch video and hear audio on both the computer and the television.)

You can also connect the computer to a camcorder, VCR, or other video component that has a VIDEO IN or S VIDEO IN connector.

If your system includes the Sony Multimedia Computer Display:

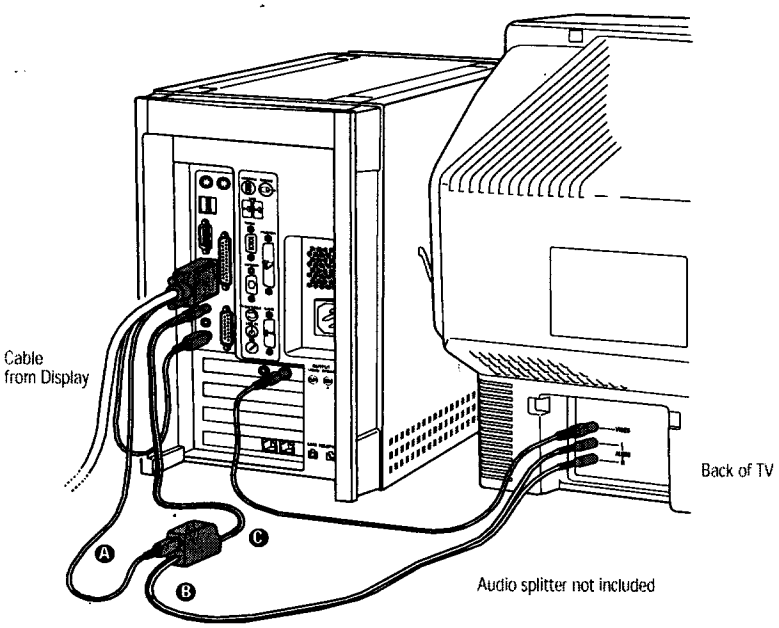
1 Use the yellow symbol to locate the composite **VIDEO OUT** connector on the computer. Plug either end of the yellow video cable into this connector. Then plug the other end of the cable into the TV's **VIDEO IN** connector.

If your TV has an S VIDEO IN connector, use the S VIDEO cable to connect the computer's S VIDEO OUT jack to the TV's S VIDEO IN jack. S VIDEO provides a better picture than a conventional video connection.

2 Use the green symbol to locate the **HEADPHONES** connector on the computer. Plug the black end of the audio splitter cable Ⓐ into this connector. Then plug the red and white ends of the audio splitter cable Ⓑ into the TV's **AUDIO IN** connectors. (This enables you to hear audio on the multimedia monitor as well as on your TV.)

* *Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only*

3 Plug the green audio plug from the display cable into the connector on the audio splitter cable Ⓒ. Then use the red 🎤 symbol to locate the **MIC** connector on the computer. Plug the red microphone cable from the display cable into this connector.



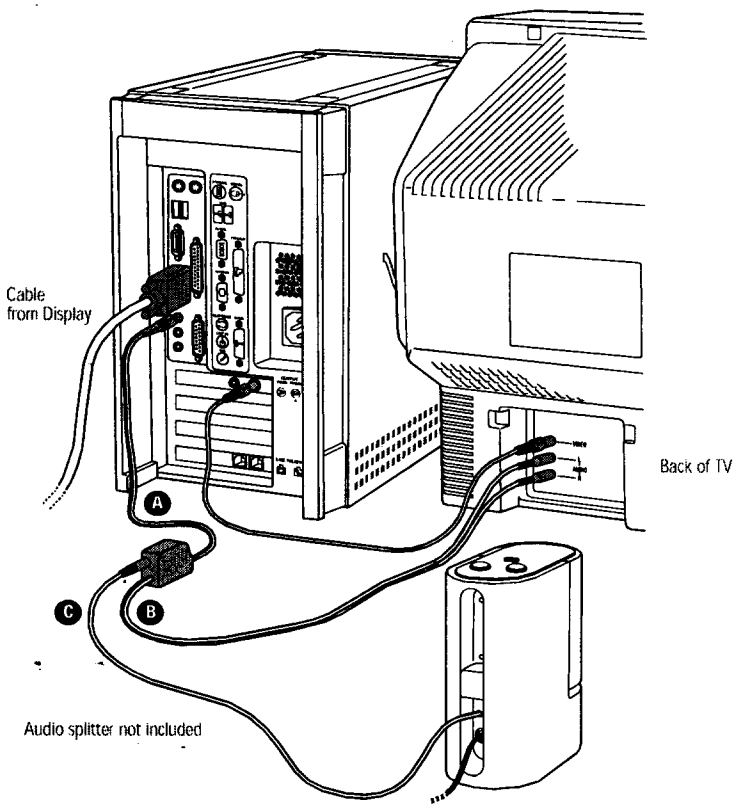
If your system does not include the Sony Multimedia Computer Display:

1 Use the yellow symbol to locate the composite **VIDEO OUT** connector on the computer. Plug either end of the yellow video cable into this connector. Then plug the other end of the cable into the TV's **VIDEO IN** connector.

✍ If your TV has an S VIDEO in connector, use the S VIDEO cable to connect the computer's S VIDEO OUT jack to the TV's S VIDEO IN jack. S VIDEO provides a better picture than a conventional video connection.

2 Use the green symbol to locate the **PHONES** connector on the computer. Plug the black end of the audio splitter cable Ⓐ into this connector. Then plug the red and white ends of the audio splitter cable Ⓑ into the TV's **AUDIO IN** connectors.

3 Plug the speaker cable into the connector on the audio splitter cable C.

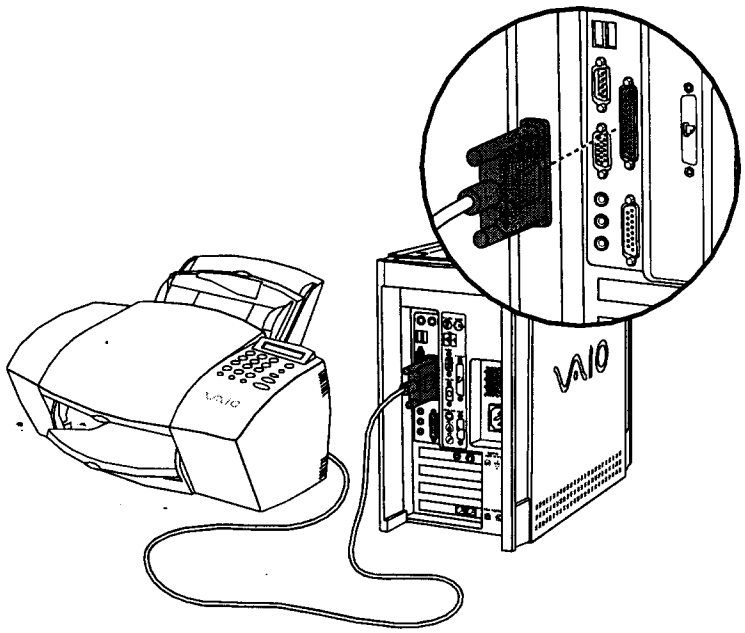


Connecting a Printer

You can connect a printer to your computer to print documents from your computer.

1 Use the dark grey symbol to locate the **PRINTER** connector. Plug the printer cable into this connector.

2 If necessary, plug one end of the printer power cord into the printer, and the other end into a grounded AC wall outlet, power strip, or Uninterrupted Power Supply.

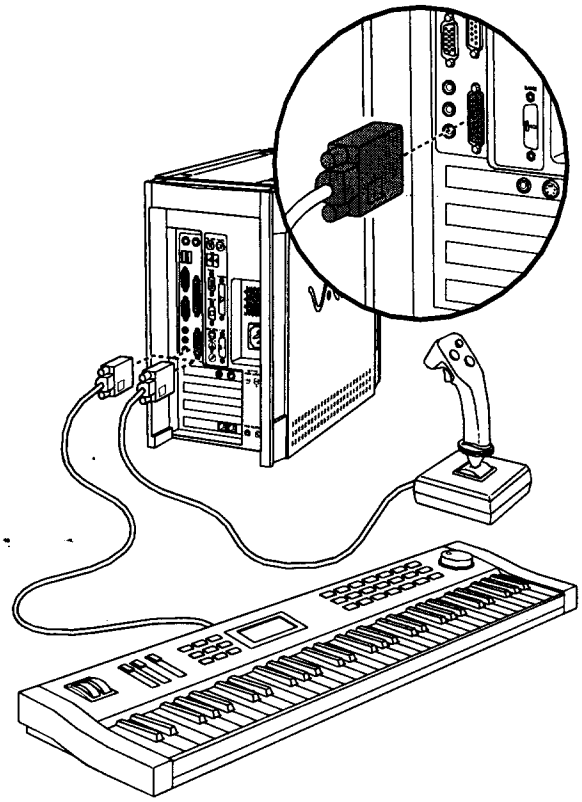


See the manual that came with your printer for more information on setting it up and using it.

Connecting a Joystick or MIDI Instrument

You can connect a joystick or MIDI instrument to your computer. You can also purchase an adapter to connect additional devices.

- Use the dark grey symbol to locate the **GAME** connector. Plug the joystick or MIDI cable into this connector.

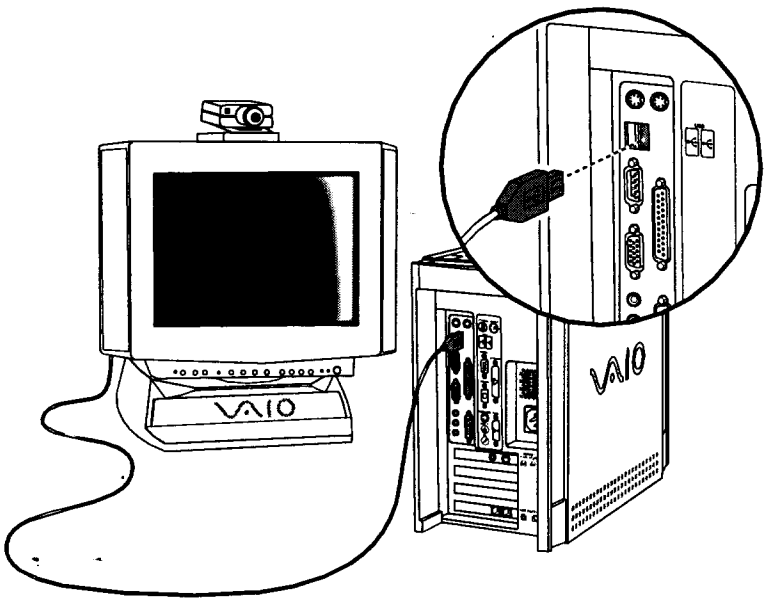


Your MIDI instrument may have a different type of cable which requires an adapter. See the manual that came with your joystick or MIDI instrument for more information on setting it up and using it.

Connecting a Universal Serial Bus (USB) Device

You can connect a USB device to your computer.

- Use the dark grey ⇇ symbol to locate the **USB** connector. Plug the USB cable into this connector.

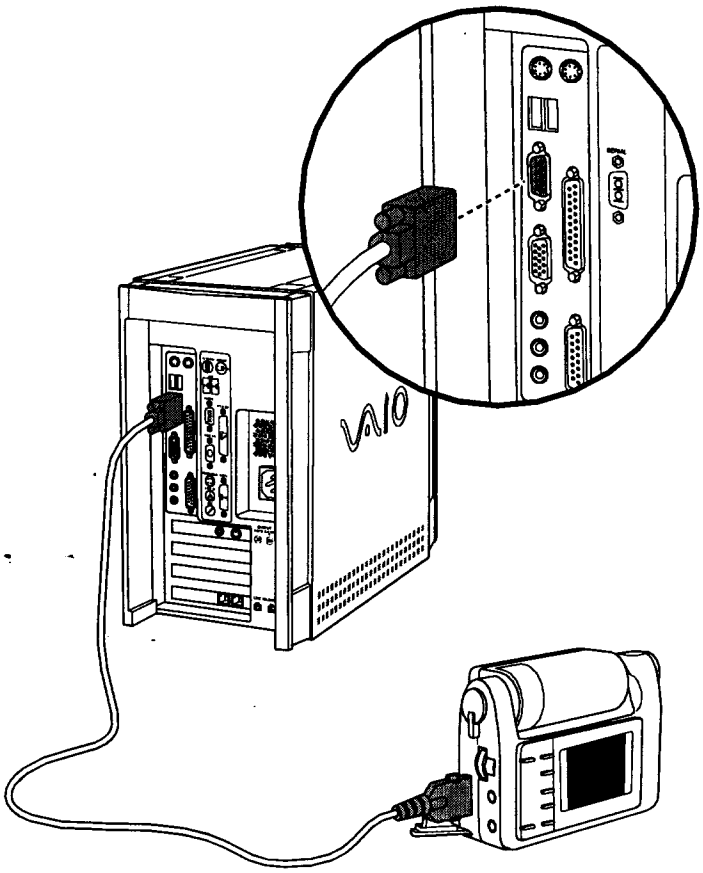


See the manual that came with your USB device for more information on setting it up and using it.

Connecting a Digital Camera or Other Serial Peripheral

You can connect other computer peripherals, such as Sony's digital still camera, to the computer's serial port.

❑ Plug the serial-cable from the digital camera into the serial port.



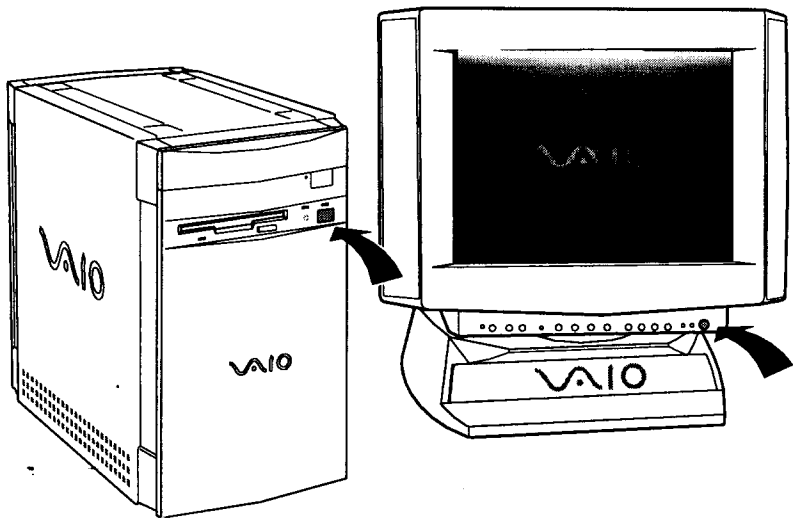
✍ See the manual that came with your digital camera for more information on setting it up and using it.

Starting Your Computer

After you connect all the cables and accessories to your computer, you're ready to turn on the computer.

1 Press the power switch on the display to turn on the power.

2 Press the power switch on the front panel of the computer to turn on the power.



See "Using the Standby Function" on page 33 and "Shutting Down Your Computer" on page 34 for instructions on turning off your computer.

After shutting down your computer, wait 10 seconds before turning the computer on again.

Registering Windows®

The first time you turn on your computer, you need to complete a few steps to register and configure the Windows software that is already installed on your computer. You do not need to repeat these steps each time you turn on your computer.

You must register Windows before you can use your computer.

The on-screen instructions guide you through the registration and configuration process. The following is an overview of the process.

1 Gathering information:

- ❑ Enter your name.
- ❑ Read and accept the License Agreement.
- ❑ Enter your Certificate of Authenticity number located on the cover of the Windows manual.

2 Windows setup:

- ❑ Click the Finish button on the Windows Setup Wizard screen.

3 Selecting your computer settings:

- ❑ If necessary, change the Time Zone, Date and Time on the Date/Time Properties screen.

4 Learning about Windows:

- ❑ If you want, take the tour of Windows.

Registering Your Computer

Take advantage of Sony's commitment to quality customer support and receive these benefits by registering your computer:

- **Sony Online Support**—Talk to a Support Representative to troubleshoot problems you may be having with your computer.
- **Limited labor warranty**—Protect your investment. See "Limited Warranty Statement" on page 99 for details.

  You must register your VAIO MicroTower to extend the warranty for an additional nine months beyond the initial 90-day warranty period.

- **On-site service**—Provides convenient resolution of problems.

Follow these steps to use the computer online registration service.

You must connect your phone and phone line before using any online service including the online registration service. See "Connecting the Phone Line and Phone" on page 20.

1. Click the "Click here to begin" text in the center of the VAIO desktop.
2. Enter the information requested on the first online registration form. Press the TAB key to move from box to box.
3. Click the Next button to advance to the next form.
4. Complete the remaining forms by clicking the Next button each time you complete a form.

   The computer automatically transfers your registration information using your built-in modem and a toll-free telephone number.

Using the Standby Function

When you're done using your computer, you can put it in standby mode rather than turn it off completely. Putting the computer in standby mode allows you to return to normal computer use instantly.

To put the computer in standby mode

1 Save your work and close any applications that are running. (You can leave Microsoft Windows running.)

2 Press the power switch on the front panel.

The computer goes into standby mode.

To change the length of time before the computer goes into standby mode

The computer automatically goes into standby mode when there is no activity on the computer for 30 minutes. You can modify this length of time from the Windows Control Panel.

To take the computer out of standby mode

❑ Press the power switch on the front panel again.

Standby Mode Indicators

You can tell which mode the computer is in by the color of the power indicator light.

Color	*Mode*
Amber	Computer is in standby mode.
Green	Computer is out of standby mode, ready to use.
No color	Computer is turned off.

✍ In standby mode you may periodically hear the computer's fan turn on and off, depending on the room's temperature. This is normal functioning in standby mode.

Shutting Down Your Computer

When you're ready to turn off your computer for an extended period of time, use the following procedure to shut down the computer.

! **To avoid the potential loss of data, do not press the power switch before you shut down the computer.**

To shut down your computer

✍ If you plan to shut down your computer for a short period of time, you may want to use standby mode instead. See "Using the Standby Function" on page 33.

1 Click the Start button on the Windows taskbar to open the Start menu.

2 Click Shut Down to display the Shut Down Windows dialog box.

3 Click Shut down to shut down the computer.

4 Press Enter to complete the shutdown process.

✍ Respond to any prompts about saving documents.

5 Wait for your computer to turn off automatically — the power indicator light turns off.

6 Turn off the display and any other peripherals connected to your computer.

Getting Started With VAIO Space

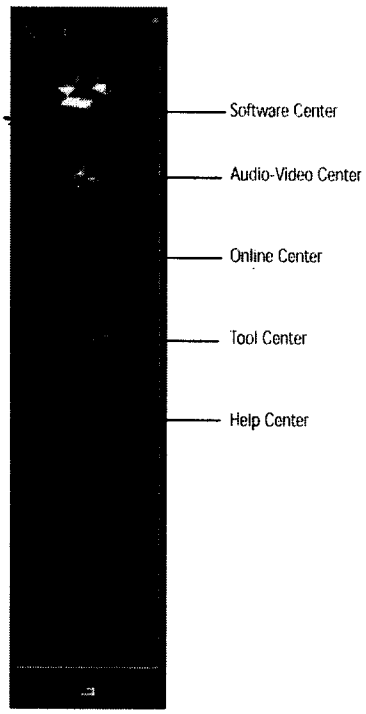
VAIO Space is Sony's original utility that organizes the preinstalled applications on your VAIO MicroTower, making it easier for you to find and launch the applications on your computer, use the Sony audio and video players, connect to the Internet, and more.

Starting VAIO Space

To start VAIO Space

- Click the VAIO Space icon on the Windows desktop.

  The VAIO Launcher appears, which includes icons for the five VAIO Space centers:



VAIO Space Centers

There are five centers within VAIO Space, as follows:

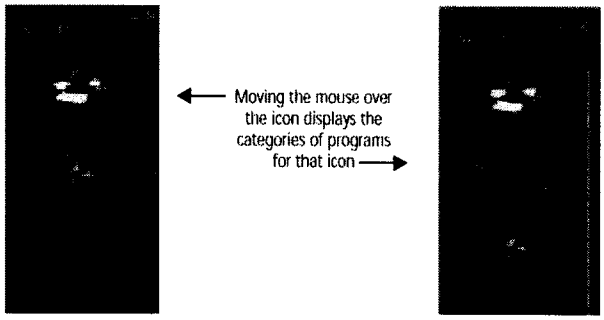
Center Name and Icon	*Contains*	*Description*
Software Center	Applications Accessories	Contains icons for all preinstalled applications and accessories. See "Using the Software Center" on page 39 for details.
Audio-Video Center	Video Audio DVD*	Launches the video and audio applications included with your computer. See "Using the Audio-Video Center" on page 40 for details.
Online Center	Easy Internet VAIO Direct Club VAIO ImageStation Internet	Allows you to connect to the Internet. See "Using the Online Center" on page 53 for details.
Tool Center	Tools Options	Provides tools that help you analyze and fix system-related problems. See "Using the Tool Center" on page 54 for details.
Help Center	Help Center	Contains links to various sources of help for your VAIO MicroTower computer. See "Using the Help Center" on page 56 for details.

* Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only

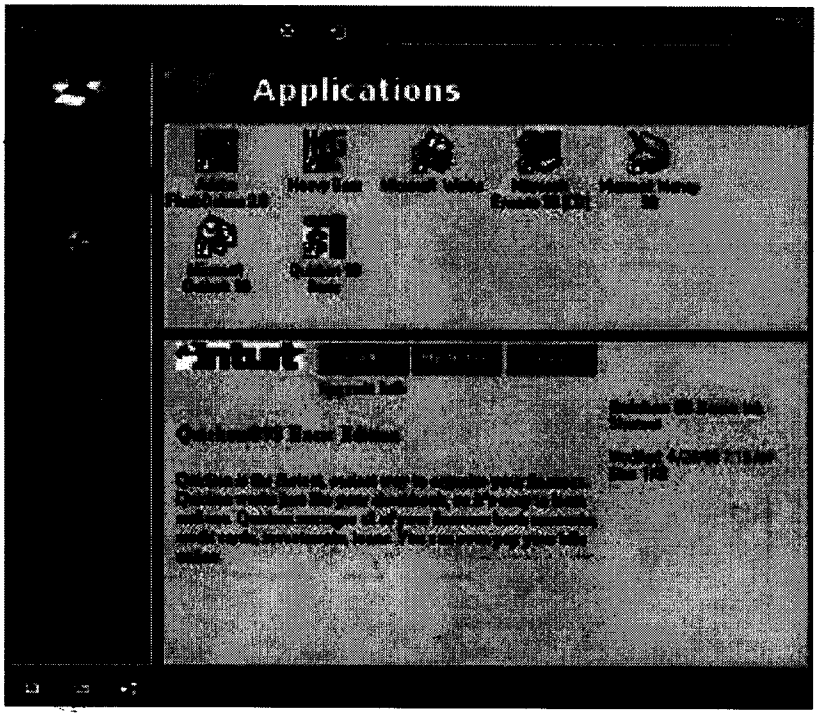
Navigating through VAIO Space

To go to a center within VAIO Space

1 Move the mouse pointer over an icon on the VAIO Launcher. Categories for each center appear.



2 Click the category text (such as **Applications**) to open the VAIO screen.



VAIO Space Controls

Button	Function
	Goes to the previous screen or page in a sequence. Unavailable until you go to another screen.
	Goes to the next screen or page in a sequence. Unavailable on the last screen in a sequence.
	Stops loading the current page (used for web pages).
	Refreshes the current page (used for web pages).
	Displays the current website address (URL) or file name path. You can also type an address or path in this box.
	Minimizes, maximizes/restores, and closes VAIO Space.
	Shows/hides the VAIO Launcher. Provides the maximum area for viewing pages.
	Opens another VAIO Launcher. This is useful if you want to perform two simultaneous operations, such as launching an application while watching a video.
	Shows/hides the VAIO screen. Provides the maximum view of the desktop.
	Animates when a web page is loading.

Using the Software Center

To launch the Software Center

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Software Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click the text of the category (**Applications** or **Accessories**) to open the VAIO screen.

3 To start an application, click the icon.

Other Software Center Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Display information about a program.	Move the mouse pointer over the program icon.
Display questions and answers about the highlighted program.	Click [redacted] *(grayed out when unavailable)*
Create and save notes about the highlighted program.	Click [redacted]
Display a help or readme file about the highlighted program.	Click [redacted] *(grayed out when unavailable)*
Add an application icon to the Software Center.	Drag and drop an application icon from anywhere within Windows onto the VAIO screen.
Remove an application icon from the Software Center.	Drag and drop an application icon from the Software Center to the Windows Recycle Bin.

Using the Audio-Video Center

The Audio-Video Center includes the following programs:

Program	*Description*
Video	Plays MPEG (.mpg), MPEG2 (.vob) and AVI (.avi) video files.
Audio	Includes the following players: ❑ Mixer, which controls the volume and balance for sound files, videos, audio tracks, etc. ❑ Media player, which plays WAV (.wav), MIDI (.mid), and RMI (.rmi) audio files and MPEG (.mpg), MPEG2 (.vob) and AVI (.avi) video files. Also included is an AudioView WAV audio file editor. ❑ CD player, which plays audio tracks from your CD-ROM or DVD-ROM* drive.
DVD*	Plays DVDs (Digital Versatile Discs).

* Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only

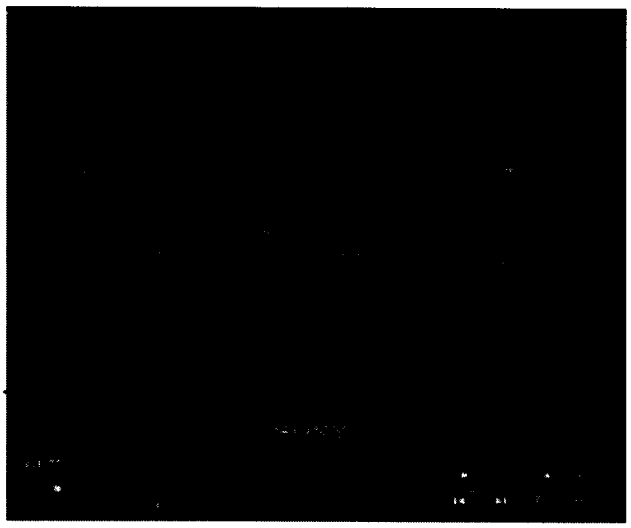
Using the Video Player

The Video Player plays MPEG (.mpg), MPEG2 (.vob) and AVI (.avi) video files.

To play a video file

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Audio-Video Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **Video** in the VAIO Launcher. The Video Player launches and begins playing.



To play a different video file

1 Click the Play List button.

2 Select one or more video files from the AV PlayList dialog box.

3 Click ADD.

4 Click OK.

The video file begins playing automatically.

Other Video Player Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Toggle the sound on and off	Click the mute button. (Green light indicates sound is muted.)
Stop play	Click (Stop).
Pause play	Click (Pause).
Go to the next video file in the playlist	Click (Next).
Go to the previous video file in the playlist	Click (Previous).
Play full screen	Click (full screen).
Create a playlist	Click the Play List button.
Adjust the volume	Drag the volume slider up and down.

Using the Mixer

The Mixer enables you to control your computer's sound sources for Windows multimedia and sound programs. The Mixer has individual controls for:

- 3D sound effect
- Master (all sources) volume level, balance, and mute

  The Master setting overrides the individual settings for the players listed below.

- WAV (digital audio) volume level, balance, and mute
- CD (audio) volume level, balance, and mute
- MIDI (music) volume level, balance, and mute
- Line input volume level, balance, and mute
- Recording input selection: CD, MIC, LINE IN
- Recording level volume

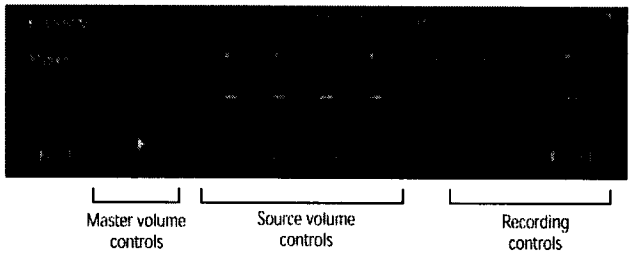
Do not use headphones the first time you use the Mixer. The default audio settings may be loud enough to cause hearing problems or discomfort when played through headphones. Listening to loud music with headphones or using headphones for an extended period of time may also cause hearing problems or discomfort.

If you change an audio or video player's volume setting, the Mixer display updates automatically. Likewise, if you change the Mixer volume settings for an audio or video player, the player's volume setting updates automatically.

To start the Mixer

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Audio-Video Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **Audio** in the VAIO Launcher. Then click the Mixer button.



You can also start the Mixer by double-clicking the speaker icon on the Windows taskbar.

3 Drag the slider(s) to set the volume for the selected sound source.

Other Mixer Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Toggle the sound on and off	Click the mute button. (Green light indicates sound is muted.)
Adjust the balance	Drag the balance slider.
Reset the Mixer to the factory default settings	Click the Reset button.
Launch the WAV Editor	Click the Record button.
Select an audio input	Click the CD, MIC, or LINE IN button.
Toggle 3D audio on/off	Click the 3D button.
Toggle Overlay Mode on/off	Right-click on the Mixer and select Overlay Mode.
Close the Mixer	Click (Close).

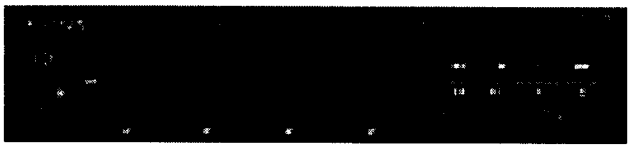
Using the CD Player

You can play an audio CD at any time, as long as you are not currently running a program that requires that a disc be in the drive. You can even close the CD Player window while listening to a CD.

To play an audio CD

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Audio-Video Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **Audio** in the VAIO Launcher. Then click the CD button.



3 Click ▪ (Eject) to open the CD tray.

4 Place an audio CD in the CD tray, and then click ▪ (Eject) again to close the tray.

5 Click ▪ (Play).

Other CD Player Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Toggle the sound on and off	Click the mute button.
Stop play	Click (Stop).
Pause play	Click (Pause).
Go to the next track	Click (Next).
Go to the beginning of the current track	Click (Previous).
Rewind the current track	Click and hold (Rewind).
Fast forward the current track	Click and hold (Fast Forward).
Adjust the volume	Drag the CD volume slider on the CD Player or the Mixer.
Create a playlist, CD titles, and track names	Click the Play List button.
Play an intro to each track in the playlist	Click the INTRO button.
Play the tracks in random order	Click the SHUFFLE button.
Continuously play ("loop") the current playlist tracks in the order in which they appear	Click the REPEAT button.
Play the current playlist tracks in the order in which they appear	Click the PROGRAM button.
Open or close the CD tray	Click (Eject).
Close the CD Player	Click (Close).

To open the CD tray when you do not have a CD in the tray, press the Eject button on the front panel of the computer.

Using the Media Player

The Media Player lets you play WAV, MIDI, and RMI audio files, as well as AVI and MPEG video files.

To play a media file

1. Move the mouse pointer over the Audio-Video Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.
2. Click **Audio** in the VAIO Launcher. Then click the Media button.

3. Click ■ (Play) or the Play List button.
4. Select one or more files from the dialog box.
5. Click OK.
6. Click ■ (Play).

Other Media Player Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Toggle the sound on and off	Click the mute button.
Stop play	Click (Stop).
Pause play	Click (Pause).
Create or update a playlist	Click the Play List button.
Go to the next file in the playlist	Click (Next).
Go to the beginning of the current file in the playlist	Click (Previous).
Rewind the current file	Click and hold (Rewind).
Fast forward the current file	Click and hold (Fast Forward).
Adjust the volume	Drag the volume slider on the Media Player or the Mixer.
Play an intro to each file in the playlist	Click the INTRO button.
Play the playlist files in random order	Click the SHUFFLE button.
Continuously play ("loop") the current playlist files in the order in which they appear	Click the REPEAT button.
Edit a WAV sound	Click the Edit button to launch the WAV Editor. See the online help for details.
Close the Media Player	Click (Close).

Using the DVD Player*

To play a DVD

1 Move the mouse pointer over the A-V Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **DVD** in the VAIO Launcher. The DVD Player is displayed.

If a DVD disc is in the drive when you start the DVD player, the DVD video window appears and the video begins playing automatically. To display the player, move the mouse pointer over the video window, right-click, and select Panel.

3 Press the Eject button on the front panel of the computer. The tray slides out.

4 Place a DVD in the CD tray.

DVD discs can be played on both sides. The side of the disc facing up is the side that plays.

5 Click (Eject) again to close the tray.

6 Click (Play).

The video window is displayed, and the video begins to play.

* Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only

Primary DVD Player Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Toggle the sound on and off	Click the mute button.
Stop play	Click (Stop).
Pause play	Click (Pause).
Go to the next chapter	Click (Next).
Go to the beginning of the current chapter	Click (Previous).
Rewind	Click (Rewind).
Fast forward	Click (Fast Forward).
Adjust the volume	Drag the DVD volume slider on the DVD Player.
Open the drop-down panel	Click the down arrow ( ) in the bottom right corner of the DVD Player. See "Using the Drop-Down Panel" on page 50 for details.
Open or close the CD tray	Click (Eject). Alternatively, you can click the My Computer icon on the Windows desktop, right-click the icon of DVD disc, and then click Eject.
Hide the DVD Player	Click (Close) on the DVD Player panel.
Close the DVD Player	Click (Close) on the DVD video window.

To open the DVD tray when you do not have a DVD in the tray, press the Eject button on the front panel of the computer.

Using the Drop-Down Panel

The drop-down panel gives you access to additional DVD features.

To access the drop-down panel

- Click the down arrow (▬) in the bottom right corner of the DVD Player.

Drop-Down Panel Functions

The following options are grayed out if they are not supported by the DVD in the drive.

Option	*Description*
DVD Menu	Displays the menu that is available on the DVD.
Title Menu	Displays the title menu, for DVDs divided into multiple titles.
Subtitle	Select from the available languages for subtitles.
Audio Track	Select from the available languages for the audio track.
Multi Angle	Select from the available camera angles for the video.
Aspect ratio	Select 16 : 9 (widescreen) or 4 : 3 (normal) aspect ratio for the video window.
TV Out	Displays the Display Properties dialog box to enable or disable TV Out.
Setup	Displays the DVD Player Setup control panel. See "Changing the Default DVD Player Setup Options" on page 52 for details.

To close the drop-down panel

- Click the up arrow (▬) in the bottom right corner of the drop-down panel.

Using the Right-Click Menu

When the video window is displayed, you can access additional DVD functions using the right mouse button.

To use the right-click menu

1 Move the mouse pointer over the video window.

2 Click the right mouse button. A pop-up menu with the following options is displayed:

Option	*Description*
Panel	Displays the DVD Player control panel.
Default Size	Resizes the video window to the factory-set size.
Full Size	Resizes the video window to full size.
Cinema	Resizes the video window at full size and closes any open DVD Player windows.
Window	Resizes the video window to a non-full screen window.
Setup	Opens the DVD Player Setup control panel. See "Changing the Default DVD Player Setup Options" on page 52 for details.
About DVD Player	Displays version number, copyright information, etc., about the DVD player.
Close	Closes the DVD Player.

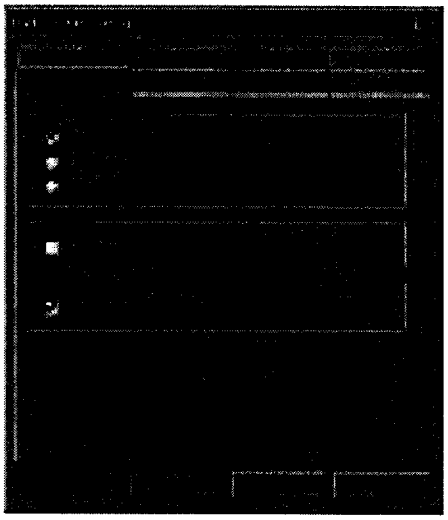
3 Select an option from the pop-up menu.

Changing the Default DVD Player Setup Options

The DVD Player Setup control panel lets you specify the settings the DVD Player uses for all DVDs. You can override these default settings for individual DVDs using the drop-down panel in the DVD Player.

To change the DVD Player Setup options

1 Click the Setup button in the DVD Player drop-down panel.



You can also display this control panel by right-clicking on the video window and selecting Setup.

DVD Player Setup Control Panel Options

See the on-line help for more detailed descriptions of these options.

Option	*Description*
Program	Sets the information display options for the DVD Player.
Picture	Select the brightnes and color temperature of the video.
Player	Sets miscellaneous options for the player.
Audio	Sets the balance and volume levels.
Audio Track	Sets a language for audio tracks.
Subtitle	Sets a language for subtitles. Turns subtitles on/off.
Angle	Sets the angle.
Parental	Sets the Current Password Level and Password.

Using the Online Center

To launch the Online Center

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Online Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click the text of the category as described below.

Category	*Description*
Easy Internet	Provides an intuitive interface to do almost everything on the Internet: browsing, e-mail, navigating to the best sites on the web, and interacting with multimedia content. Includes 50 free hours of Internet access from GTE Internetworking. (No credit card needed.)
VAIO Direct	Save money by ordering products direct from Sony Online.
Club VAIO	Find out the latest developments in the world of VAIO; interact with other VAIO users.
ImageStation	The easy way to share your photos with friends and family online.
Internet	Shortcuts to all your Internet applications.

Using the Tool Center

Using Tool Center Tools

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Tool Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **Tools** to open the VAIO screen.

3 To start a program or accessory application, click the icon.

Other Tool Functions

Action	*Procedure*
Display information about a program.	Move the mouse pointer over the program icon.
Display questions and answers about the highlighted program.	Click [redacted] *(grayed out when unavailable)*
Create and save notes about the highlighted program.	Click [redacted]
Display a help or readme file about the highlighted program.	Click [redacted] *(grayed out when unavailable)*
Add an application icon to the Tool Center.	Drag and drop an application icon from anywhere within Windows and onto the VAIO screen.
Remove an application icon from the Tool Center.	Drag and drop an application icon from the Tool Center to the Windows Recycle Bin.

Using Tool Center Options

The Options screen lets you customize the way VAIO Space works.

To set VAIO Space options

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Tool Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **Options** to open the VAIO screen.

3 Set the options as follows:

Option	*Check This To*
Launch VAIO Space II at Startup	Have VAIO Space start automatically when you turn on your computer. Default is off (VAIO Space does not launch at startup).
Disable Click Sounds	Turn off the click sounds in VAIO Space. Default is off (sounds are turned on).
Default Page	Set which screen appears when VAIO Space is launched. Default is Applications page.

4 Click Apply.

Using the Help Center

For a complete description of all the help options available, see "Getting Help" on page 57.

To launch the Help Center:

1 Move the mouse pointer over the Help Center icon on the VAIO Launcher.

2 Click **Help Center** to open the VAIO screen.

3 Follow the on-screen instructions to find the appropriate source of help for the problem you are having.

Exiting VAIO Space

To exit VAIO Space

- Click the (Close) button.

Getting Help

Sony provides several support options for your Sony computer. When you have questions about your computer and the preinstalled software, check these sources for answers, in the following sequence:

1	*VAIO MicroTower Getting Started*	Explains how to set up and upgrade your computer.
2	*VAIO MicroTower User Guide*	The *User Guide* is an electronic document that includes the contents of *Getting Started*. It also includes instructions for using the computer's audio and video applications and the telephone support numbers for your preinstalled software titles. You can access this guide from the Windows Start menu.
3	*VAIO MicroTower Reference Manual*	Provides detailed technical information about the hardware in your VAIO MicroTower. This electronic document is available from Sony's website at http://www. ita.sel.sony.com/support/pc/
4	*Manuals and online help files that may accompany your preinstalled software*	Most of the manuals for preinstalled software are located on your hard disk drive as online help files. You can access the online help files from the Help menu in the specific application. A printed manual is available for some applications.
5	*Knowledge Database*	Provides instant access to information on commonly encountered problems. Enter a description of your problem and the Knowledge Database searches for the corresponding solutions online. You can access the Sony Knowledge Database at: http://www. ita.sel.sony.com/support/pc/
6	*First Aid™ '98*	This program is preinstalled on your hard disk. It intercepts crashes caused by Windows applications, finds and fixes startup problems for most installed applications, uses a knowledge base to find and fix additional problems, and automatically backs up your computer's critical configuration files.

7	*Oil Change™ (Sony SOS Edition)*	This program is preinstalled on your hard disk, and is a useful companion to SOS. Using the Internet, it provides updated device drivers, software fixes and updates provided by Sony for the software titles included with your Sony computer. SOS Oil Change scans your computer to identify software applications and their versions. It then logs on to the Internet, compares your software configuration against the Sony database, and notifies you of the software fixes and updates available for your computer. For each fix and update, it provides an explanation. After selecting the software fixes and updates you require, SOS Oil Change downloads and installs the selected items. If, for any reason, the new software/device driver is not installed successfully, your current configuration will be retained. To contact SOS Oil Change support dial 1-888-4SONYPC (1-888-476-6972).
8	*Sony Fax-on-Demand*	This service provides you with answers to commonly asked questions. You can use this automated service to request a list of available topics and then select the topics that you want to receive. To contact the Sony fax-on-demand service, call 1-888-4SONYPC (1-888-476-6972). (Requires a fax machine or your fax software.)
9	*Sony SOS software*	This preinstalled program connects you to a Customer Support Representative. SOS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for 90 days after the original date of purchase. Connect your modem before you call, so the representative can access your system if necessary. "Calling SOS" on page 59 describes how to use the SOS software. Before calling SOS, try running First Aid and Oil Change. You may find that this resolves your problem. First Aid, Oil Change, and SOS are all available from the Help Center on the Start menu.
10	*Calling SOS*	You can call and speak with a Sony Customer Support Representative without using your computer by calling 1-888-4SONYPC (1-888-476-6972). Software support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for 90 days after the original date of purchase.

Calling SOS

The SOS application enables you to exchange information with a Sony Customer Support Representative (CSR) using your modem and telephone handset. Here's a summary of how it works:

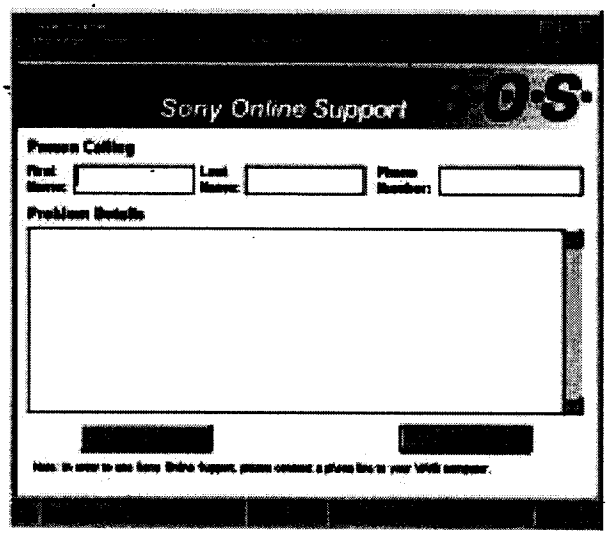
- Type your name and a description of the problem in the SOS window
- Dial the SOS hotline with a click of the mouse
- Specify the access level for the CSR
- The CSR resolves the problem

Before using SOS, make sure the computer is connected to a phone line and phone as described in "Connecting the Phone Line and Phone" on page 20.*

To place a call to SOS

1 From the Start menu, select Help Center/Step4 Call SOS/Sony Online Support.

2 In the SOS window, type your name, phone number, and a description of the problem.



3 Remove the phone from the receiver, and then click the Call SOS button.

* If you do not have a phone line connected to your computer, you can call SOS by dialing 1-888-4SONYPC (1-888-476-6972)

4 When the Remote Command Security dialog box appears, select an access level by clicking one of these options:

Option	*Description*
Full access	Allows the CSR to fully interact with your computer. The CSR can access all the files on your hard disk drive and can copy files to and from your computer to solve your problem.
Limited access	Lets the CSR view your system, but you must approve every action the CSR takes. If the CSR wants to copy a file, for example, the Remote Command Permission dialog box prompts you to approve this action.
No access	Prevents the CSR from accessing your system. You must perform all the operations as described to you by the CSR.

✍ You can change the access level during your call to SOS.

5 Discuss the problem with the CSR and follow the CSR's instructions to resolve the problem.

✍ You may hear beeps on the line as the system switches between voice and data modes. You can ignore these beeps.

When a file is being transmitted between your computer and SOS, a status box displays the progress of the file transfer.

6 To end a call, just hang up the phone when you are finished.

7 Click the Close box at the top right corner of the SOS window or select Exit from the File menu to close the SOS window.

✍ If you do not have a phone line connected to your computer, you can call SOS by dialing 1-888-4SONYPC (1-888-476-6972). Support using SOS is available for 90 days from the original date of purchase.

Troubleshooting

This section describes how to solve common problems you may encounter when using your computer. Many problems have simple solutions, so try these suggestions before you call Sony Online Support. For more advanced troubleshooting information, see the *VAIO MicroTower Reference Manual*. You can download this electronic document from Sony's website at http://www.ita.sel.sony.com/support/pc/.

My computer won't start

- Check that the computer is plugged into a power source and that it is turned on. Check that the power light is lit on the front panel of the computer.
- Make sure a diskette is not in the diskette drive.
- Confirm that the power cord and all cables are connected firmly, as described in the "Setting Up Your VAIO MicroTower" chapter.
- If you plugged the computer into a power strip or UPS, make sure the power strip or UPS is turned on and working.
- Check that the display is plugged into a power source and turned on. Check that the brightness and contrast controls are adjusted correctly. See the manual that came with your display for details.
- Check that the computer isn't in sleep mode (see "Using the Standby Function" on page 33).

My computer "locks up"

- Close the application that is currently locked up by pressing ALT+F4.
- Try restarting the computer. On the Windows taskbar, click the Start button, click Shut Down, click Restart, and then click OK.
- If you cannot restart as described in the preceding step, you can restart the computer by pressing CTRL+ALT+DELETE.

> **Pressing CTRL+ ALT+DELETE may result in losing changes made to files that are currently open.**

My software program "locks up" or crashes

- Close the application that is currently locked up by pressing ALT+F4.
- Contact the software publisher or designated provider for technical support. See the online *User Guide* for a complete list of phone numbers.

My CD-ROM or DVD-ROM drive tray won't open

- ❑ Make sure the computer is turned on.
- ❑ Press the Eject button on the drive.
- ❑ Double-click the My Computer icon on the Windows desktop. Right-click the CD-ROM icon. Select the Eject option from the pop-up menu.
- ❑ If the Eject button does not work, you can open the tray by inserting a straightened heavy-weight paper clip into the hole beside the Eject button.

I cannot play a CD-ROM disc

- ❑ Make sure you place the disc in the tray with the label side facing up.
- ❑ Make sure the software is installed according to the program's instructions.

I cannot play a DVD-ROM disc (PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only)

- ❑ If a region code warning appears when you are using the DVD player, it could be that the DVD-ROM disc you are trying to play is incompatible with the DVD-ROM drive in your VAIO MicroTower. The region code is listed on the disc's packaging.
- ❑ If you hear audio but cannot see video, your computer's video resolution may be set too high. For best results, change the Windows Control Panel/Display/Settings to 800 x 600 using 16-bit color.
- ❑ If you see video but cannot hear audio, check all of the following: Make sure the mute setting is off in your DVD player. Check the master volume setting in the audio Mixer. Check the volume settings in your computer speakers. Check the connections between your speakers and the computer. Check the Windows Control Panel/System/Device Manager to see that the drivers are installed properly.
- ❑ A dirty or damaged disc may cause the computer to "hang" while it tries to read the disc. If necessary, reboot the computer, remove the disc, and then check that it is not dirty or damaged. For cleaning instructions, see "On Cleaning CD-ROM and DVD-ROM Discs" on page 97.

When I double-click an application icon, a message such as "You must insert the application CD into your CD-ROM drive" appears and the software does not start

- Some titles require specific files that are located on the application's CD-ROM disc. Insert the disc and try starting the program again.
- Check to make sure you inserted the CD-ROM disc with the label side facing up.

My speakers have no sound

- Check that the speakers are plugged into the **HEADPHONES** connector. See "Connecting the Sony Multimedia Computer Display" on page 16 or "Connecting a Display, Speakers, and a Microphone" on page 17 for details.
- If the speakers have a mute button, make sure it is off.
- If the speakers are powered by batteries, check that the batteries are inserted properly and that they are charged.
- If the speakers use an external power source, make sure that the power cord is plugged into a grounded wall outlet or power strip.
- If the speakers have their own volume control, check the volume level.
- If the program you are using has its own volume control, check that the volume is turned up.
- Check the volume controls in the application, in the audio Mixer, and in Windows.
- If you connected headphones to the computer, you will not hear sound from the speakers.

My modem connection is slow

The computer's modem is a 33.6 kbps modem/14.4 kbps FAX modem with K56flex™ technology. Many factors influence modem connection speed, including telephone line noise or compatibility with telephone equipment (such as fax machines or other modems). If you think your modem is not connecting properly to other PC-based modems, fax machines or your Internet Service Provider, check the following:

- Have your phone company check that your phone line is free from any line noise.
- If your problem is fax-related, check that there are no problems with the fax machine you are calling and that it is compatible with fax modems.
- If you are having a problem connecting with your Internet Service Provider, check that the ISP is not experiencing technical problems.
- If you have a second phone line available, try connecting the modem to this line.

My modem doesn't work

- Check that the phone line is plugged into the **LINE** jack. See "Connecting the Phone Line and Phone" on page 20 for details.
- Check that the phone line is working. You can check the line by plugging in an ordinary phone and listening for a dial tone.
- Check that the phone number the program is dialing is correct.
- Check that the software you are using is compatible with the Sony computer modem. (All preinstalled programs are compatible.) Call the software publisher or Sony Online Support.

My microphone doesn't work

- Check that the microphone is plugged into the **MIC** connector. See "Connecting the Sony Multimedia Computer Display" on page 16 or "Connecting a Display, Speakers, and a Microphone" on page 17 for details.

My mouse doesn't work

- Check that the mouse is plugged into the **MOUSE** connector. See "Connecting the Keyboard and Mouse" on page 19 for details.
- There may be dust or dirt inside the mouse mechanism. To clean the mouse, follow these steps:
  - Turn off your computer. See "Shutting Down Your Computer" on page 34 for details.
  - Remove the mouse ball cover on the back side of the mouse.
  - Turn the mouse upright, and drop the mouse ball into your hand.
  - Using a piece of tape, remove any dust or dirt on the mouse ball and inside the mouse ball socket.
  - Return the mouse ball to the socket, and replace the mouse ball cover.

My keyboard doesn't work

- Check that the keyboard is plugged into the **KEYBOARD** connector. See "Connecting the Keyboard and Mouse" on page 19 for details.

I can't find the Windows taskbar

- Use the mouse to point to the left, right, top, and bottom edges of the screen.

✍ See the VAIO MicroTower Supplement for additional information on using your Sony computer.

Using the System Recovery CD

You can reinstall software titles that shipped with your computer if they are corrupted or accidentally erased. You may not need to recover the entire contents of your hard drive. If you experience a problem with your computer, reinstalling an individual device driver or software title may correct the problem.

Use the Application Recovery CD to reinstall individual applications or device drivers. See "Using the Application Recovery CD" on page 68.

The System Recovery CD contains a backup copy of the all the software originally installed on your hard disk drive. **It can be used only to recover the hard disk of the Sony computer you purchased.**

The System Recovery utility gives you three options:

- **Full Restore without Format** restores all the software titles that originally came with your computer without formatting the hard disk.
- **Full Restore with Format** formats the hard disk drive and then restores all the original software.
- **Operating System Only** formats the hard disk drive and restores the Windows operating system and the device drivers that shipped with your computer. This option is recommended for advanced users only.

! **If you choose the Full Restore with Format or Operating System Only option, your hard disk will be formatted, which removes all the information on the hard disk drive. You will lose any software you have installed and any other files you have created since you started to use your computer. This means you will have to reinstall any applications that were not included with the computer when you purchased it. If you choose to the Full Restore without Format option, you may need to reinstall applications that were not included with the computer when you purchased it. If you have any questions on using the System Recovery CD, contact Sony Online Support (SOS).**

To use the System Recovery CD

You need to complete the Windows registration process when you use the System Recovery CD. Make sure you have the product ID number located on the cover of your Microsoft Windows manual. You will need this number to complete the recovery process.

1 Insert the Sony System Recovery CD in the CD-ROM drive.

The System Recovery utility boots from the CD-ROM drive. It must be in the CD-ROM drive when you turn on the computer.

2 Shut down your computer as described on "Shutting Down Your Computer" on page 34.

3 Wait 30 seconds and turn on your computer.

4 Click OK to signify you have read and accept the Microsoft End-User License Agreement.

5 When the System Recovery menu appears, follow the on-screen instructions to complete the recovery process.

The recovery process takes between 30 to 60 minutes to complete.

Using the Application Recovery CD

The Application Recovery CD allows you to reinstall individual applications and device drivers if they are corrupted or accidentally erased. Reinstalling an individual device driver or software title may correct a problem you are experiencing with your computer, and you may not need to recover the entire contents of your hard drive. If you do need to reinstall all the software titles that shipped with your computer, use the System Recovery CD. See "Using the System Recovery CD" on page 66.

You must be in Windows to run the Application Recovery CD. The application will not run from DOS. If you have any questions on using the Application Recovery CD, contact Sony Online Support (SOS).

To use the Application Recovery CD

1. Turn on your computer. If your computer is already on, close all applications.
2. When the Windows desktop appears, insert the Sony Application Recovery CD in the CD-ROM drive. The Application Recovery utility loads automatically.
3. When the Application Recovery menu appears, follow the on-screen instructions to complete the recovery process.

Upgrading and Maintaining Your VAIO MicroTower

In the future you may want to install additional boards to expand the functionality of your computer. This section describes how to open your computer and insert add-in boards, add memory, and replace the lithium battery. For more information on upgrading your Sony computer, see the *VAIO MicroTower Reference Manual.* You can download this electronic document from the Sony website at http://www.ita.sel.sony.com/support/pc/.

The procedures in this section assume you are familiar with the general terminology associated with personal computers and with the safety practices and regulatory compliance required for using and modifying electronic equipment. Read "Notes on Use" on page 93 before upgrading your Sony computer.

! Always switch the power off before you open the system or connect your computer to peripheral equipment; otherwise, damage may occur to the integrated circuits in your computer.

Electrostatic discharge (ESD) can damage disk drives, add-in cards, and other components. Do the procedures described here only at an ESD workstation. If such a station is not available, do not work in a carpeted area and do not handle materials that produce or hold static electricity (cellophane wrappers, for example). Ground yourself by maintaining continuous contact with an unpainted metal portion of the chassis while performing the procedure.

Inserting an Add-in Board

You can add up to two additional PCI boards to the system.

Your VAIO MicroTower cannot accommodate PCI add-in boards exceeding 7.7" in length.

To insert an add-in board

! Make sure you observe the proper safety precautions when you add boards to your Sony computer. See page 93.

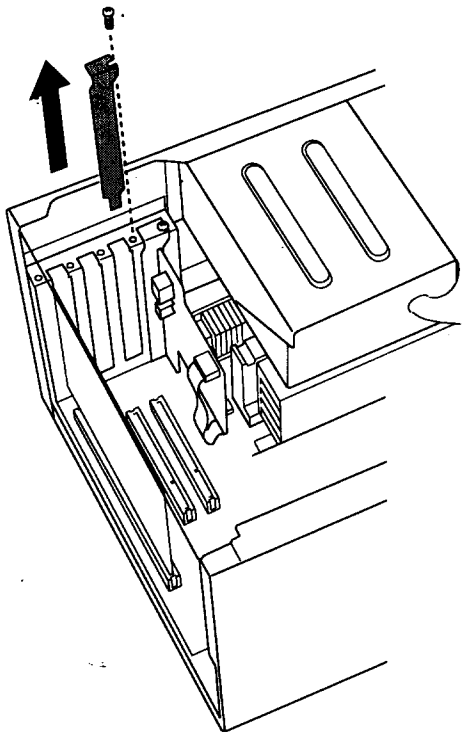
1 Shut down your computer and turn off all peripheral devices, such as your printer, display, and speakers.

2 Unplug your computer and any peripheral devices.

3 Remove the left-side panel as described on page 76.

4 Identify the expansion slot where you want to insert the add-in board.

5 Remove the slot cover for the slot you have chosen.



Adding Memory

Depending on which VAIO MicroTower model you purchased, your DIMM (dual in-line memory module) configuration is as follows:

MicroTower Model	Factory-Installed DIMM	Total Memory	Upgrade Sockets Available
PCV-E201	One 32 MB DIMM	32 MB	1
PCV-E203	One 32 MB DIMM/ One 16 MB DIMM	48 MB	0*
PCV-E205	Two 32 MB DIMMs	64 MB	0*

* *Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only: In order to increase your computer's memory, you must first remove one of the factory-installed DIMMs and replace it with one of greater capacity. For details, see the VAIO MicroTower Reference Manual, which is available at Sony's website at http://www. ita.sel.sony.com/support/pc/.*

For memory upgrades, use only 3.3V unbuffered 4-clock 64-bit 66 MHz SDRAM DIMM module Rev1.0 or 3.3V unbuffered 4-clock 72-bit 66 MHz SDRAM DIMM module Rev1.0. For more information on MicroTower compatible memory, call Sony at 1-888-4SONYPC (1-888-476-6972).

To install memory

! **Make sure you observe the proper safety precautions when you add DIMMs to your Sony computer. See "Notes on Use" on page 93.**

1 Shut down your computer and turn off all peripheral devices, such as your printer, display, and speakers.

2 Unplug your computer and any peripheral devices.

3 Remove the left-side panel, bottom panel, and front panel, as described on pages 76 to 77. Then detach the diskette drive, as described on page 78.

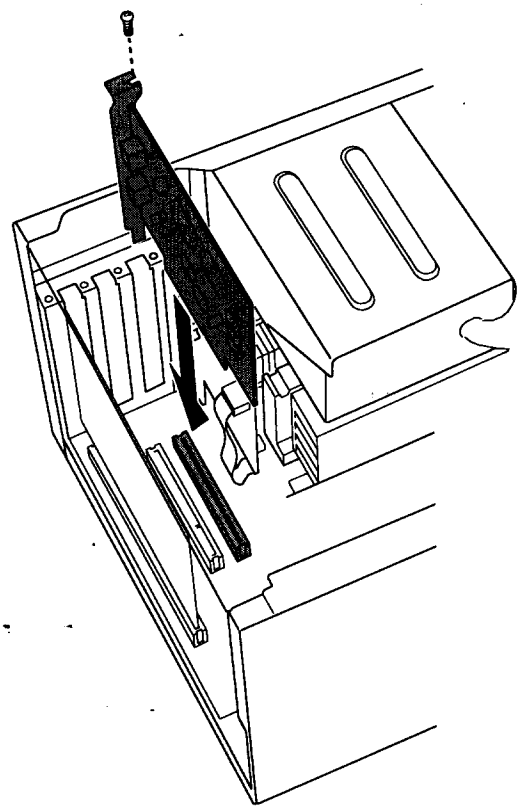
✍ You do not need to completely remove the diskette drive in order to access the DIMM sockets.

4 If necessary, remove any cables, add-in cards or other components to access the DIMM sockets.

5 Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 only:

Remove either (or both) of the factory-installed DIMMs.

6 Install the add-in card by plugging it into the expansion slot on the system board. Attach any internal cables that the board requires (see the manual for the add-in card).

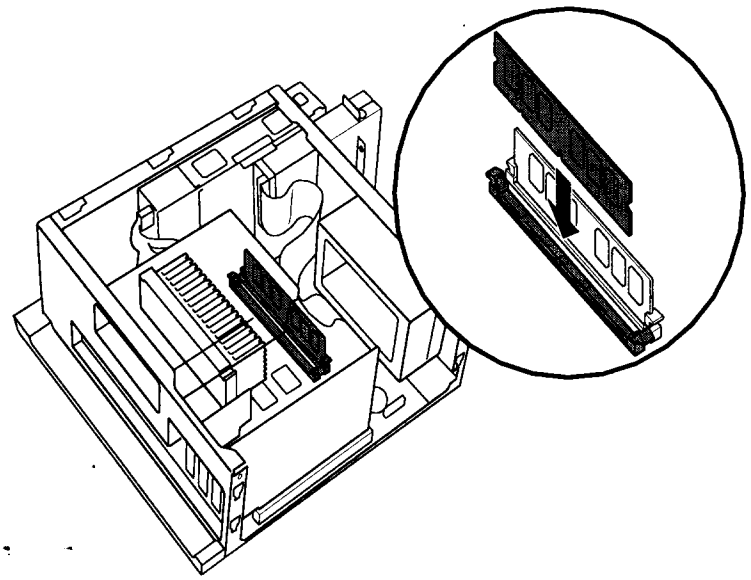


7 Replace the left-side panel as described on page 83.

6 Handle the DIMM only by the edges, and remove it from its anti-static package.

7 Locate the keys on the bottom edge of the DIMM.

8 Align the DIMM over the socket.



! To avoid damaging the DIMM socket, move the DIMM socket tabs slightly outward to relieve pressure. The DIMM should then click easily into place.

9 Firmly insert the bottom edge of the DIMM into the socket.

10 Press evenly against the DIMM's upper corners. The end latches snap into position automatically.

11 Reinstall any add-in cards or components you removed.

12 Replace the diskette drive and cover panels, as described on page 80 to 83.

Replacing the Lithium Battery

After several years, when the lithium battery starts to weaken, the system settings stored in CMOS RAM, such as the date and time, may be wrong. When this occurs, you need to replace the lithium battery.

To replace the lithium battery

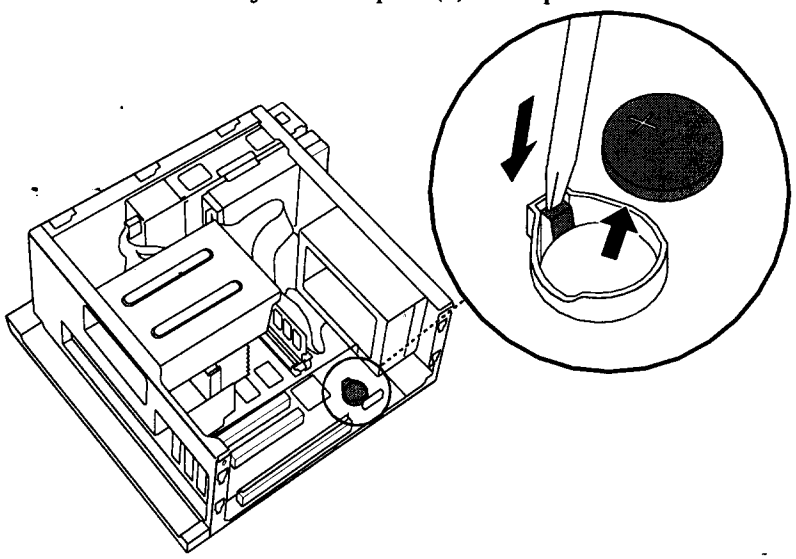
1 To run the Setup utility, press F3, then press F1 to run the BIOS setup utility.

2 Write down the current BIOS Setup options.

3 Shut down your computer and turn off all peripheral devices, such as your printer, display, and speakers. Unplug your computer.

4 Remove the left-side and bottom panels, as described on pages 76 through 77, respectively.

5 Install the new battery with the plus (+) side up.



! There is danger of explosion if you replace the battery incorrectly. You must replace the battery only with a CR2032 type lithium battery. Discard used batteries according to the instructions on page 94.

6 Replace the bottom and left-side panels, as described on pages 81 and 83, respectively.

✍ The values stored in the CMOS memory are now reset to the factory default values. You must run the Setup utility to reset the date, time, passwords, and other options. See the VAIO MicroTower Reference Manual for details.

7 To run the Setup utility, press F3, then press F1 to run the BIOS setup utility.

8 Change the default values to the values you wrote down in step 2.

9 Save your Setup changes, and then exit the Setup utility.

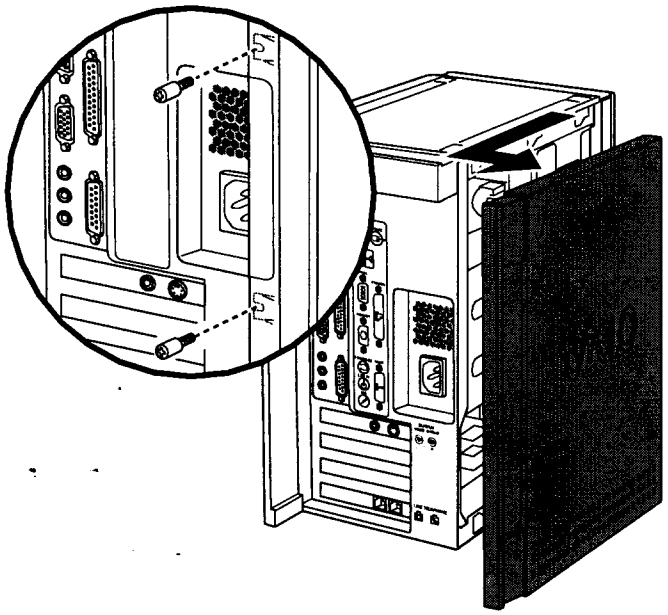
Removing the Left-Side Panel

To remove the left-side panel

1 Remove the two screws that secure the panel to the chassis.

2 Slide the panel back until it stops.

3 Pull the panel straight out to remove it.

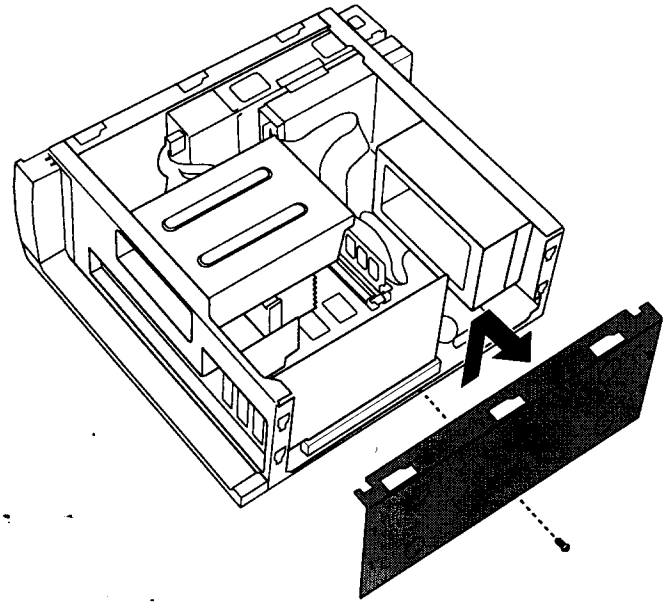


Removing the Bottom Panel

To remove the bottom panel

1 Remove the screw that secures the bottom panel to the chassis.

2 Pull the bottom panel straight out to remove it.



Removing the Front Panel

To remove the front panel

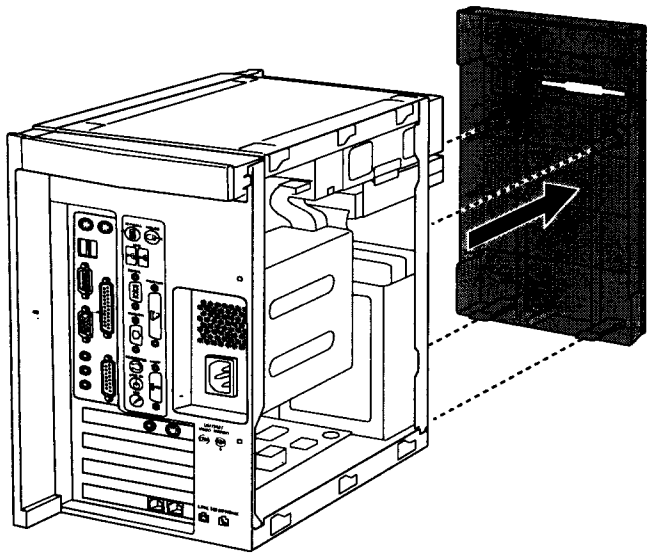
1 Open the CD tray by inserting a thin, pointed object into the emergency eject opening.

2 Slide the CD tray forward.

3 Remove the front cover of the CD tray by lifting it upwards.

4 Press down on each of the two tabs on the bottom of the front panel to release the panel.

5 Pull the front panel forward to remove it.



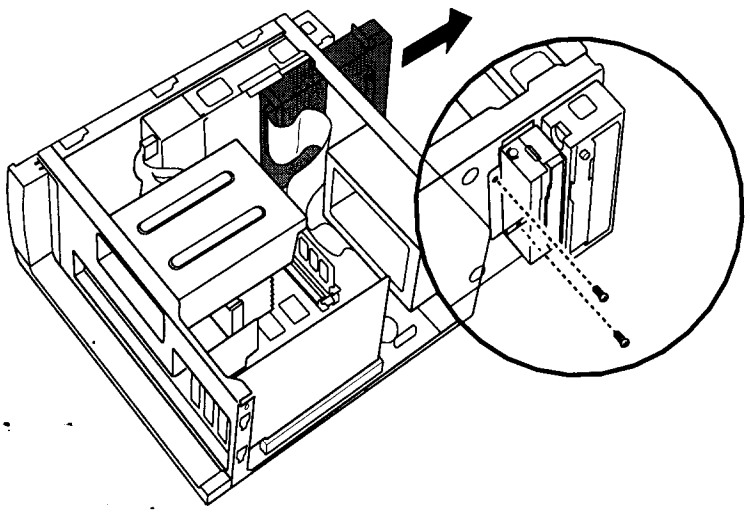
Detaching the Diskette Drive

To detach the diskette drive

1 Remove the front panel, as described on page 77.

2 Remove the two screws that secure the diskette drive to the front of the chassis.

3 Pull the diskette drive forward.



If you are adding memory, you do not need to completely remove the diskette drive or disconnect the cable.

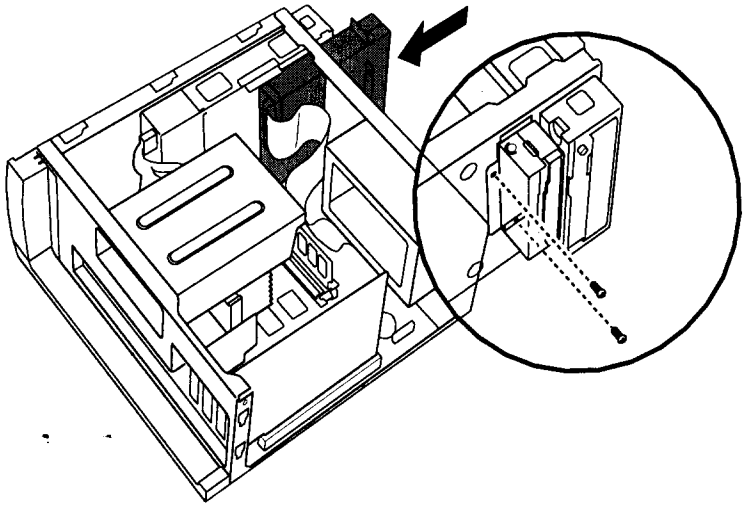
Replacing the Diskette Drive

To replace the diskette drive

1 Push the diskette drive straight into the drive slot.

2 Replace the two screws that secure the diskette drive to the front of the chassis.

3 Replace the front panel, as described on page 82.

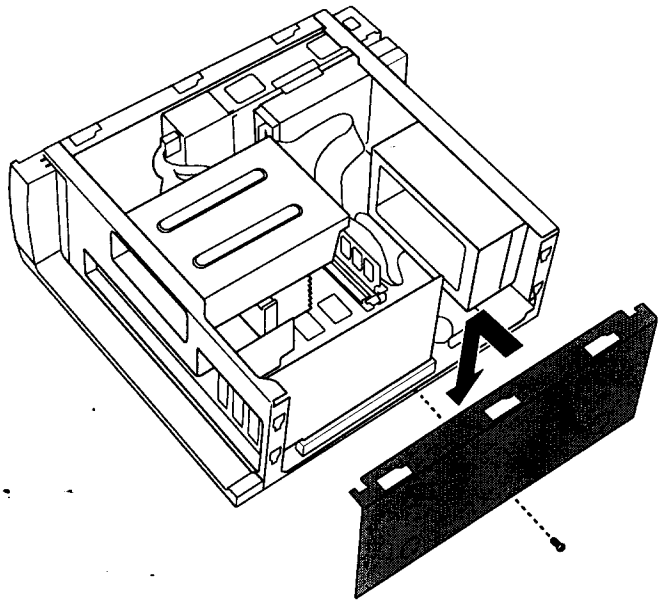


Replacing the Bottom Panel

To replace the bottom panel

1 Align the bottom panel with the screw hole on the bottom of the chassis.

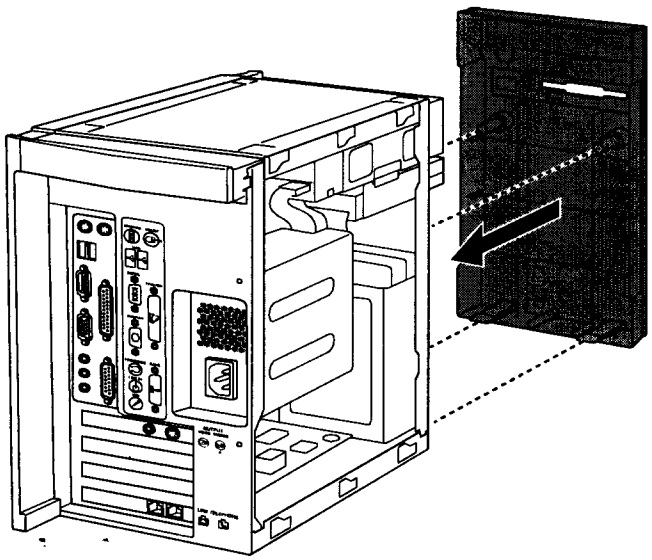
2 Replace the screw that secures the bottom panel to the chassis.



Replacing the Front Panel

To replace the front panel

1 Push the front panel straight onto the front of the chassis until it clicks into place.



2 Replace the front cover of the CD tray by sliding it down onto the front of the open tray.

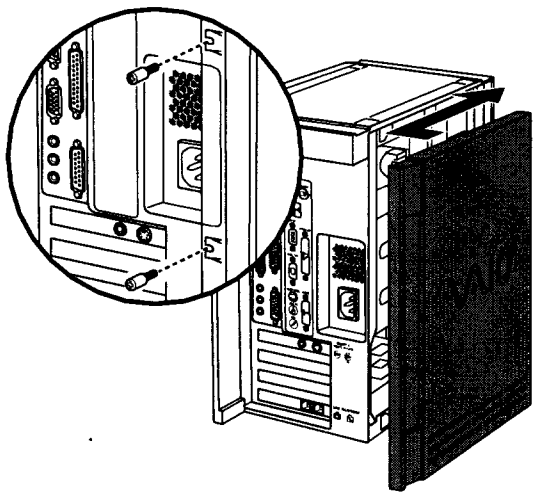
3 Close the CD tray.

Replacing the Left-Side Panel

To replace the left-side panel

1 Slide the panel forward until it stops.

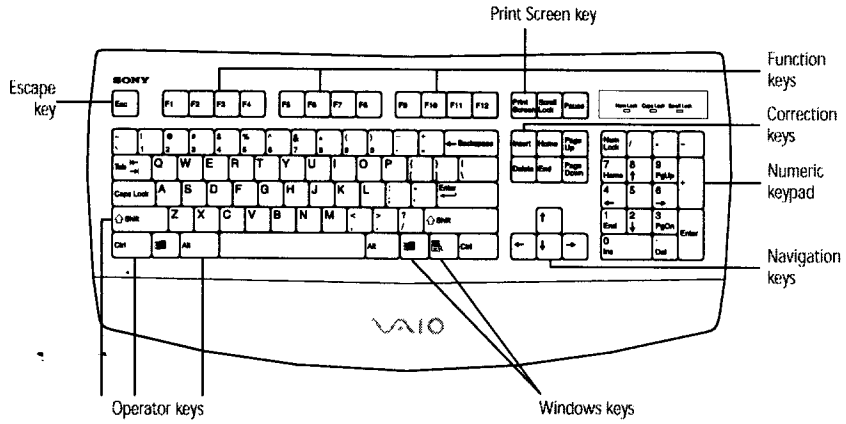
2 Replace the two screws that secure the panel to the chassis.



Computer Basics

Using the Keyboard

Your keyboard is very similar to a typewriter's, but the keyboard has additional keys that perform specific computer-related tasks.



Key	*Description*
Numeric keypad	Contains the keys found on a typical calculator. Use the numeric keypad to type numbers or to perform mathematical calculations such as addition and subtraction. Note that you must press NUM LOCK to activate the numeric keypad. (When you do so, the Num Lock light will be on.)
Navigation keys	Several keys are devoted to moving the cursor on the screen (the four arrow keys and the HOME, END, PAGE UP, and PAGE DOWN keys). These keys are also available on the numeric keypad when Num Lock is turned off.

The keyboard also has three lights:

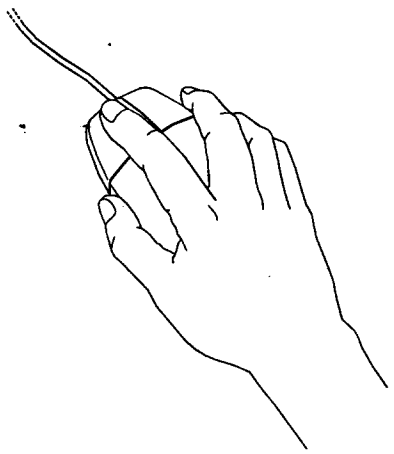
Light	*On*	*Off*
Num Lock	The number keys on the numeric keypad are active.	The arrow keys, navigation keys, and correction keys on the keypad are active.
Cap Lock	Letters appear in uppercase as you type. The SHIFT key lowers the case of typed letters when Cap Lock is on.	Letters appear in lower case as you type (unless you hold down the SHIFT key).
Scroll Lock	The screen scrolls differently. (Exactly how it scrolls depends on the specific application. It has no effect in many applications.)	Information moves across the display normally.

Key	Description
Correction keys	The INSERT and DELETE keys enable you to make corrections in your documents. These keys are also available on the numeric keypad when Num Lock is turned off.
Function keys	The twelve function keys along the top of the keyboard are used to perform designated tasks. For example, in many applications, F1 is the Help key. The task associated with each function key may vary from one application to the next.
Escape key	The ESC (Escape) key is used to cancel commands.
Print Screen key	The PRINT SCREEN key takes an electronic snapshot of the screen and places it in the Windows Clipboard. You can then paste the screen shot into a document and print it.
Operator keys	Several keys are always used with at least one other key: CTRL, ALT, and SHIFT. When held down with another key, the CTRL (Control) and ALT (Alternate) keys offer another way to give commands. For example, in many applications, instead of choosing the Save command from a menu, you can hold down CTRL and press S (referred to as CTRL+S). The SHIFT key operates the same way as on a typewriter; it's used to produce capital letters or special symbols such as @ and $.
Windows keys	The keys with the Windows logo display the Windows Start menu; it's the equivalent of clicking the Start button on the taskbar. The Applications key displays a shortcut menu of context-sensitive choices; pressing this key is the equivalent of clicking the right mouse button.

Using the Mouse

Using a mouse may be difficult at first, but after you become comfortable using it, you can save a lot of time. The following terms are commonly used to describe actions you perform with a mouse.

Term	*Description*
Point	Place the mouse pointer on an item or object.
Click	Press and release the left mouse button, without moving the mouse.
Double-click	Press the left mouse button two consecutive times, without moving the mouse.
Right-click	Press the right mouse button. In many applications, this action displays a shortcut menu of context-sensitive choices.
Drag	Hold down the left mouse button and then move the mouse in the desired direction. This action is used to select text and move objects.



Setting Up the Mouse for Left-Hand Use

You can control the mouse with your right or left hand. When you use the mouse with your left-hand, you may find it easier to reverse the button functions. When the functions are reversed, the right mouse button is used for normal clicking and dragging, and the left button is for displaying shortcut menus (right-clicking).

To set up the mouse for left-hand use

1. Click the Start button to display the Start menu.
2. Point to Settings.
3. Click Control Panel.
4. Double-click the Mouse icon.
5. Click the Buttons tab.
6. Under Buttons, select Left-handed.
7. Click the OK button to close the Mouse Properties dialog box.

Using the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM Drive*

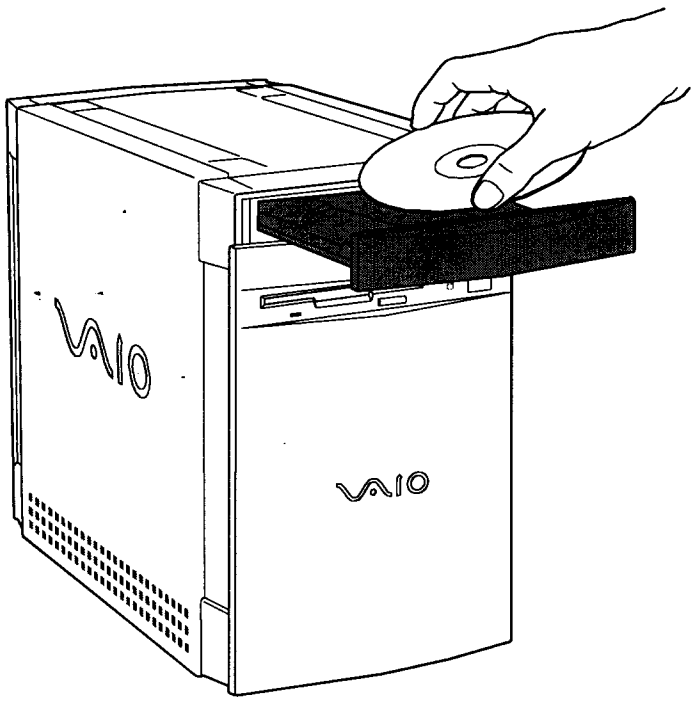
To use the drive

1 Press the Eject button on the front panel of the computer. The tray slides out.

2 Place the disc in the tray.

Place CD-ROM discs in the tray with the label side facing up. For DVD discs, which can be played on both sides, the side of the disc facing up is the side that plays.

3 Close the tray by pushing it gently or by pressing the Eject button on the front panel.



To open the drive tray after playing a DVD disc, use the Eject button in the DVD Player application. Alternatively, you can click the My Computer icon on the Windows desktop, right-click the icon of the DVD disc, and then click Eject.

* Models PCV-E203 and PCV-E205 include a DVD-ROM drive; model PCV-E201 includes a CD-ROM drive.

Other Information

Notes on Use

On the Power Source

- Your computer operates on 100–120 V AC 50/60 Hz for North American countries.
- The total power draw of installed add-in cards must not exceed the specifications for the power supply. Do not overload the system by installing add-in cards that draw excessive current. The system is designed to provide 2 amps (average) of 5V power for each card in the system not to exceed a total of 12 amps. The total 5V current draw in a fully-loaded system (with all the add-in card slots filled) must not exceed 12 amps. If you add components to the system that draw current from the power supply, the total combined +3.3V and +5V currents must not exceed 80 watts.
- Plug all the power cords for your computer and its peripheral equipment into the same AC supply line. AC derived from different supply lines may result in voltage differences that can cause unstable operation or unwanted weak currents at the time of connection.
- Do not share the AC outlet with any other power-consuming equipment, such as copying machines or shredders.
- You can purchase a power strip with a surge protector. This device prevents damage to your computer caused by sudden power surges such as those that may occur during an electrical storm.

On Handling

- Clean the cabinet with a soft, dry cloth or a soft cloth lightly moistened with a mild detergent solution. Do not use any type of abrasive pad, scouring powder, or solvent such as alcohol or benzine, as it may damage the finish of your Sony computer.
- Should any solid object or liquid fall into the cabinet, keyboard, or mouse, shut down your computer and then unplug it. You may want to have the computer checked by qualified personnel before operating it any further.

On Installation

- Do not place your Sony computer in a location subject to:
  - Heat sources, such as radiators or air ducts
  - Direct sunlight
  - Excessive dust
  - Moisture or rain
  - Mechanical vibration or shock
  - Strong magnets or speakers that are not magnetically shielded
  - Ambient temperature of more than 95°F (35°C) or less than 50°F (10°C)
  - High humidity
- Do not place electronic equipment near your computer. The computer's electromagnetic field may cause a malfunction.
- Provide adequate air circulation to prevent internal heat build-up. Do not place your computer on loose surfaces (such as rugs or blankets) or near materials (such as curtains or draperies) that may block its ventilation slots. Leave a space of at least 8 inches from the back panel of your computer.
- The computer uses high-frequency radio signals and may cause interference to radio or TV reception. Should this occur, relocate the computer a suitable distance away from the set.
- Use only specified peripheral equipment and interface cables; otherwise, problems may result.
- Do not use cut or damaged connection cables.
- Always switch the power off before connecting your computer to peripheral equipment; otherwise, damage may occur to the integrated circuits in your computer.

- Your computer, keyboard, and mouse consist of high-precision electronic parts. Do not drop them or bump them against other objects.
- Your Sony computer will not work with party lines, cannot be connected to a coin-operated telephone, and may not work with multiple phone lines or a private branch exchange (PBX).
- If the telephone company makes a service call to your home or office and determines that your computer is responsible for the problem, the telephone company may bill you for the service call. Also, if you do not disconnect your computer when it is adversely affecting the telephone line, the telephone company has the right to disconnect your service until you correct the problem.

On Moisture Condensation

If your computer is brought directly from a cold location to a warm one, moisture may condense inside your computer. In this case, allow at least an hour before turning on your computer. If any problem occurs, unplug your computer, and contact your Sony Service Center.

On Upgrading the System

- The procedures described in the "Upgrading and Maintaining Your VAIO MicroTower" chapter of this manual assume familiarity with the general terminology associated with personal computers and with the safety practices and regulatory compliance required for using and modifying electronic equipment.
- Disconnect the system from its power source and from any telecommunications links, networks, or modems before you open the system or do any of the procedures described in the "Upgrading and Maintaining Your Sony Computer" section in this manual. Failure to do so may result in personal injury or equipment damage.
- Electrostatic discharge (ESD) can damage disk drives, add-in cards, and other components. Do the procedures described in the "Upgrading and Maintaining Your VAIO MicroTower" chapter only at an ESD workstation. If such a station is not available, do not work in a carpeted area, and do not handle materials that produce or hold static electricity (cellophane wrappers, for example). Ground yourself by maintaining contact with an unpainted metal portion of the chassis while performing the procedure.

- When removing a slot cover, be careful not to damage components on the system board or add-in cards. You may need to temporarily remove add-in cards that are next to the slot cover you want to remove.

On Using the Hard Disk Drive

- Do not place the computer in a location that is subject to vibration or shock.
- Do not move the computer during operation.
- Do not subject the computer to sudden changes in temperature.
- Do not turn off the power while the computer is accessing the hard disk drive.

On Handling Diskettes

- Do not open the shutter manually and touch the surface of the diskette.
- Keep diskettes away from magnets.
- Keep diskettes away from direct sunlight and other heat sources.

On Handling CD-ROM and DVD-ROM Discs

- Do not touch the surface of the disc.
- Do not drop or bend the disc.

On Cleaning CD-ROM and DVD-ROM Discs

- Fingerprints and dust on the surface of a disc may cause read errors. Proper care of the disc is essential to maintain its reliability. Do not use solvents such as benzine, thinner, commercially available cleaners or anti-static spray, as they may cause damage to the disc.
- For normal cleaning, hold the disc by its edge and use a soft cloth to wipe the surface from the center out.
- If the disc is badly soiled, moisten a soft cloth with water, wring it out well, and use it to wipe the surface of the disc from the center out. Wipe off any remaining moisture with a dry soft cloth.

Limited Warranty Statement

The limited warranty on your VAIO MicroTower covers parts and labor against defects in material or workmanship for a period of three months from the original date of purchase. You can extend the warranty period for an additional nine months by registering your computer. See "Registering Your Computer" on page 32. Once you register your computer, the limited warranty period is twelve months from the original date of purchase.

SONY ELECTRONICS INC. ("SONY") warrants this computer hardware product ("the Product") against defects in material or workmanship as follows:

Labor: For a period of ninety (90) calendar days from the original date of purchase from SONY or a SONY authorized reseller, SONY will repair defects in the Product at no charge, or pay the associated labor charges to a SONY authorized personal computer service facility. The ninety (90) day warranty period is extendible only to the original purchaser, for an additional period of nine (9) months, for a total of twelve (12) months from date of purchase when the Product is registered electronically. After the applicable period you must pay for all labor charges.

Parts: For a period of ninety (90) calendar days from the original date of purchase from SONY or a SONY authorized reseller, SONY will supply, at no charge, new or rebuilt, at SONY's option, replacement parts in exchange for defective parts. Any replacement parts will be warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period or ninety (90) calendar days from installation by SONY's authorized personal computer service facility, whichever is longer. The ninety (90) day warranty period is extendible only to the original purchaser, for an additional period of nine (9) months, for a total of twelve (12) months from date of purchase when the Product is registered electronically. All defective parts replaced under this Limited Warranty will become the property of SONY.

This Limited Warranty covers only the hardware components packaged with the Product. It does not cover technical assistance for hardware or software usage and it does not cover any software products whether or not contained in the Product; any such software is provided "AS IS" unless expressly provided for in any enclosed software limited warranty. Please refer to the End User License Agreements included with the Product for your obligations with respect to the software.

This Limited Warranty is non-transferable.

Proof of purchase in the form of a bill of sale (which is evidence that the Product is within the warranty period) must be presented to obtain warranty service. In addition, if replacement parts are required and you wish to receive the most expedient service available, you will be required to provide SONY with a credit card authorization to bill your credit card in the event you fail to return the original parts in the postage-paid envelope we provide. The credit card will only be charged for SONY's list price for the part if the part has not been returned within thirty days.

If you purchased the Product in the United States and the Product is located in the United States, you may be entitled to on-site repair service during the warranty period, subject to certain restrictions. In all instances, however, prior to an on-site service call being provided, you must communicate with Sony sufficiently to allow it to perform initial diagnostics of your Product. Please contact SONY as set forth below for further information.

If you do not qualify for on-site warranty service or choose not to take advantage of any applicable on-site warranty service, you must take the Product, or deliver the Product freight prepaid, in either its original package or packaging providing the Product with a degree of protection equivalent to that of the original packaging, to any SONY authorized personal computer service facility. Please contact SONY as set forth below for further information.

With respect to all service provided, it is your responsibility to backup the contents of your hard drive, including any data you have stored or software you have installed on the hard drive. It is likely that the contents of your hard drive will be lost or reformatted in the course of service and SONY will not be responsible for any damage to or loss of any programs, data or other information stored on any media or any part of any Product serviced hereunder.

IF DURING THE REPAIR OF THE PRODUCT THE CONTENTS OF THE HARD DRIVE ARE ALTERED, DELETED, OR IN ANY WAY MODIFIED, SONY IS NOT RESPONSBILE WHATSOEVER. YOUR PRODUCT WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU CONFIGURED AS ORIGINALLY PURCHASED (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF SOFTWARE).

Be sure to remove all third party hardware, software, features, parts, options, alterations, and attachments not warranted by SONY prior to sending the product to SONY for service. SONY is not liable for any loss or damage to these items.

This Limited Warranty does not cover any consumable items (such as batteries) supplied with this Product; cosmetic damages; damage or loss to any software programs, data, or removable storage media; or damage due to (a) acts of God, accident, misuse, abuse, negligence, commercial use or modifications of this Product; (2) improper operation or maintenance of this Product; (3) connection to improper voltage supply; or (4) attempted repair by any party other than a SONY authorized personal computer service facility. This Limited Warranty does not apply when the malfunction results from the use of this Product in conjunction with accessories, products or ancillary or peripheral equipment, or where it is determined by SONY that there is no fault with this Product itself. This Limited Warranty is valid only in the United States of America.

This Limited Warranty is invalid if the factory applied serial number has been altered or removed from the Product.

Repair or replacement of defective parts or hardware as provided under this warranty is the exclusive remedy of the consumer. SONY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY, BREACH OF CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY OR ANY OTHER LEGAL THEORY RELATED TO THIS PRODUCT. SUCH DAMAGES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, LOSS OF PROFITS, LOSS OF REVENUE, LOSS OF DATA, LOSS OF USE OF THE PRODUCT OR ANY ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, DOWN TIME AND PURCHASER'S TIME. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS WARRANTY.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This Limited Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.

Technical Support: Although technical support is not provided free of charge under this Limited Warranty, SONY has established a telephone number for technical support. Charges may apply for technical support, unless and to the extent that free technical support for a limited period is provided in writing as a feature of your Product. Prior to placing your call, please have available the model and serial number for your Product, date of purchase, a list of all options installed in your Product and a detailed description of the problem.

For Product support, on-line knowledge base, frequently asked questions, and free updates via the Internet: http://www.ita.sel.sony.com/support/pc/

For Product information, service assistance, resolution of a service problem, or technical assistance, call: 1-888-4SONYPC

Save this for future reference.

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Specifications

Model PCV-E201

Specification	Description
Processor	266 MHz Celeron
Hard Disk Drive	4.3 GB
Standard SDRAM	32 MB SDRAM, expandable to 256 MB
Video RAM	2 MB
MPEG	"Sony Tuned" MPEG1 Digital Video supports full-screen playback
Graphics	3D AGP graphics acceleration (64-bit ATI Rage Pro Turbo)
Sound Capabilities	Dynamic High Fidelity 3D PCI Audio Sound (ESS Solo-1)
Diskette Drive	3.5" 1.44 MB MFDD
CD-ROM Drive	24X CD-ROM drive (max. performance)*
CD-ROM Laser	Semiconductor Laser Diode AlGaAs 785nm (± 25nm) wave length 0.3mw (typ.) output power
Modem	33.6 kbps modem/14.4 kbps FAX modem with K56flex™ Technology
Expansion Capabilities	Two PCI slots One drive bay
Connection Capabilities	Keyboard (PS/2-style) Mouse (PS/2-style) Two USB ports One serial port Parallel (printer) MIDI/game Headphone Line In Microphone Monitor Modem line (RJ-11) Phone line (RJ-11)

Specification	*Description*
Supplied Accessories	Sony 104-key keyboard Sony two-button mouse RJ-11 Phone Cable Power Cord
Service	90 day on-site service standard. Extendible to one year from original date of purchase upon registration†
Limited Warranty	90 day parts/labor standard. Extendible to one year from original date of purchase upon registration†
Power Requirements	200 watts maximum
Dimensions	7" (w) x 12" (h) x 13 3/4" (d) (178mm x 304mm x 330mm)
Weight	17 lbs. (7.71 kg)
Operating Temperature	50° F to 95° F (+10° C to 35° C)

*Data on a CD-ROM disc is read at a variable transfer rate, ranging from 10X at the innermost track to 24X at the outermost track (the data transfer standard 1X rate is 150 kbytes/s). The average data transfer rate is 17X (2550 kbytes/s).

†Certain restrictions apply.

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

This product meets the standards of the International Energy Star Program for energy efficiency.

Model PCV-E203

Specification	Description
Processor	300 MHz Celeron
Hard Disk Drive	6.4 GB
Standard SDRAM	48 MB SDRAM, expandable to 256 MB
Video RAM	4 MB
MPEG	"Sony Tuned" MPEG Digital Video supports full-screen and DVD playback
Graphics	3D AGP graphics acceleration (64-bit ATI Rage Pro Turbo)
Sound Capabilities	Dynamic High Fidelity 3D PCI Audio Sound (ESS Solo-1)
Diskette Drive	3.5" 1.44 MB MFDD
DVD-ROM Drive	Reads DVD data from 2X to 5X variable transfer rate. Reads CD data from 10X to 24X variable transfer rate.*
CD-ROM Laser	Semiconductor Laser Diode AlGaAs 785nm (± 25nm) wave length 0.6mw (typ.) output power
DVD-ROM Laser	Semiconductor Laser GaAlAs 650nm (± 15nm) wave length 0.6mw (typ.) output power
Modem	33.6 kbps modem/14.4 kbps FAX modem with K56flex™ Technology
Expansion Capabilities	Two PCI slots One drive bay
Connection Capabilities	Keyboard (PS/2-style) Mouse (PS/2-style) Two USB ports One serial port Parallel (printer) MIDI/game Headphone Line In Microphone Monitor Video Out S Video Out Modem line (RJ-11) Phone line (RJ-11)
Supplied Accessories	Sony 104-key keyboard Sony two-button mouse RJ-11 Phone Cable Power Cord

Specification	*Description*
Service	90 day on-site service standard. Extendible to one year from original date of purchase upon registration†
Limited Warranty	90 day parts/labor standard. Extendible to one year from original date of purchase upon registration†
Power Requirements	200 watts maximum
Dimensions	7" (w) x 12" (h) x 13 3/4" (d) (178mm x 304mm x 330mm)
Weight	17 lbs. (7.71 kg)
Operating Temperature	50° F to 95° F (+10° C to 35° C)

*Data on a DVD-ROM disc is read at a variable transfer rate, ranging from 2X at the innermost track to 5X at the outermost track (the data transfer standard 1X rate is 1385 kbytes/s). The average data transfer rate is 3.4X (4709 kbytes/s). Data on a CD-ROM disc is read at a variable transfer rate, ranging from 10X at the innermost track to 24X at the outermost track (the data transfer standard 1X rate is 150 kbytes/s). The average data transfer rate is 17X (2550 kbytes/s).

†Certain restrictions apply.

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

This product meets the standards of the International Energy Star Program for energy efficiency.

Model PCV-E205

Specification	Description
Processor	333 MHz Pentium II
Hard Disk Drive	8.4 GB
Standard SDRAM	64 MB SDRAM, expandable to 256 MB
L2 Cache Memory	512 KB Pipeline Burst SRAM
Video RAM	4 MB
MPEG	"Sony Tuned" MPEG Digital Video supports full-screen and DVD playback
Graphics	3D AGP graphics acceleration (64-bit ATi Rage Pro Turbo)
Sound Capabilities	Dynamic High Fidelity 3D PCI Audio Sound (ESS Solo-1)
Diskette Drive	3.5" 1.44 MB MFDD
DVD-ROM Drive	Reads DVD data from 2X to 5X variable transfer rate. Reads CD data from 10X to 24X variable transfer rate.*
CD-ROM Laser	Semiconductor Laser Diode AlGaAs 785nm (± 25nm) wave length 0.6mw (typ.) output power
DVD-ROM Laser	Semiconductor Laser GaAlAs 650nm (± 15nm) wave length 0.6mw (typ.) output power
Modem	33.6 kbps modem/14.4 kbps FAX modem with K56flex™ Technology
Expansion Capabilities	Two PCI slots One drive bay
Connection Capabilities	Keyboard (PS/2-style) Mouse (PS/2-style) Two USB ports One serial port Parallel (printer) MIDI/game Headphone Line In Microphone Monitor Video Out S Video Out Modem line (RJ-11) Phone line (RJ-11)
Supplied Accessories	Sony 104-key keyboard Sony two-button mouse RJ-11 Phone Cable Power Cord

Specification	Description
Service	90 day on-site service standard. Extendible to one year from original date of purchase upon registration†
Limited Warranty	90 day parts/labor standard. Extendible to one year from original date of purchase upon registration†
Power Requirements	200 watts maximum
Dimensions	7" (w) x 12" (h) x 13 3/4" (d) (178mm x 304mm x 330mm)
Weight	17 lbs. (7.71 kg)
Operating Temperature	50° F to 95° F (+10° C to 35° C)

* Data on a DVD-ROM disc is read at a variable transfer rate, ranging from 2X at the innermost track to 5X at the outermost track (the data transfer standard 1X rate is 1385 kbytes/s). The average data transfer rate is 3.4X (4709 kbytes/s). Data on a CD-ROM disc is read at a variable transfer rate, ranging from 10X at the innermost track to 24X at the outermost track (the data transfer standard 1X rate is 150 kbytes/s). The average data transfer rate is 17X (2550 kbytes/s).

†Certain restrictions apply.

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

This product meets the standards of the International Energy Star Program for energy efficiency.

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- If you live in an area that experiences frequent power fluctuations, you may want to purchase a UPS (Uninterrupted Power Supply). This device contains both a surge protector and a battery backup. The surge protector prevents damage to your computer caused by power surges. The battery backup safeguards your data during a brief period of power loss.
- Do not place heavy objects on the power cord.
- Do not operate the system with the cover removed. Always reinstall the cover before turning on the system.
- To disconnect the cord, pull it out by the plug. Never pull the cord itself.
- Unplug your computer from the wall outlet if you will not be using the computer for a long time.
- The power control button on the front panel does not turn off the system AC power. To remove power from the system, you must shut down the computer as described in this manual and then unplug the AC power cord from the wall outlet or power strip.
- Before touching anything inside the computer, turn the system off and let it cool for ten minutes. This will ensure that the processor heat sink will not be hot.
- Do not attempt to open the power supply. There are no user-serviceable parts in the power supply. To avoid personal injury or damage to your equipment, refer the repair or replacement of the power supply to qualified personnel only.

On Disposal of the Lithium Battery

- Dispose of the lithium battery properly. In some areas, the disposal of lithium batteries in household or business trash may be prohibited. You can return your unwanted lithium batteries to your nearest Sony Service Center or Factory Service Center. For the Sony Service Center nearest you, call 1-888-4SONY-PC (1-888-476-6972).

! Do not handle damaged or leaking lithium batteries.

! The lithium battery may explode if mistreated. Do not disassemble it or dispose of it in fire.

Replace the battery with a Sony CR2032 lithium battery. Using a type of battery other than a CR2032 may present a risk of fire or explosion.

Using the Diskette Drive

Most diskettes contain a write-protect tab. The write-protect tab prevents accidental changes to a diskette. When the hole is open, the diskette is write-protected—you can't delete, copy, or save information on the diskette. When the hole is closed, you may write to or modify the diskette contents. Just slide the write-protect tab to open and close the hole.

To use the diskette drive

1 Hold the diskette with the label side facing up.

2 Gently push the diskette into the drive until you hear it click into place.

3 After you finish using the diskette, press the Eject button on the diskette drive to remove the diskette.